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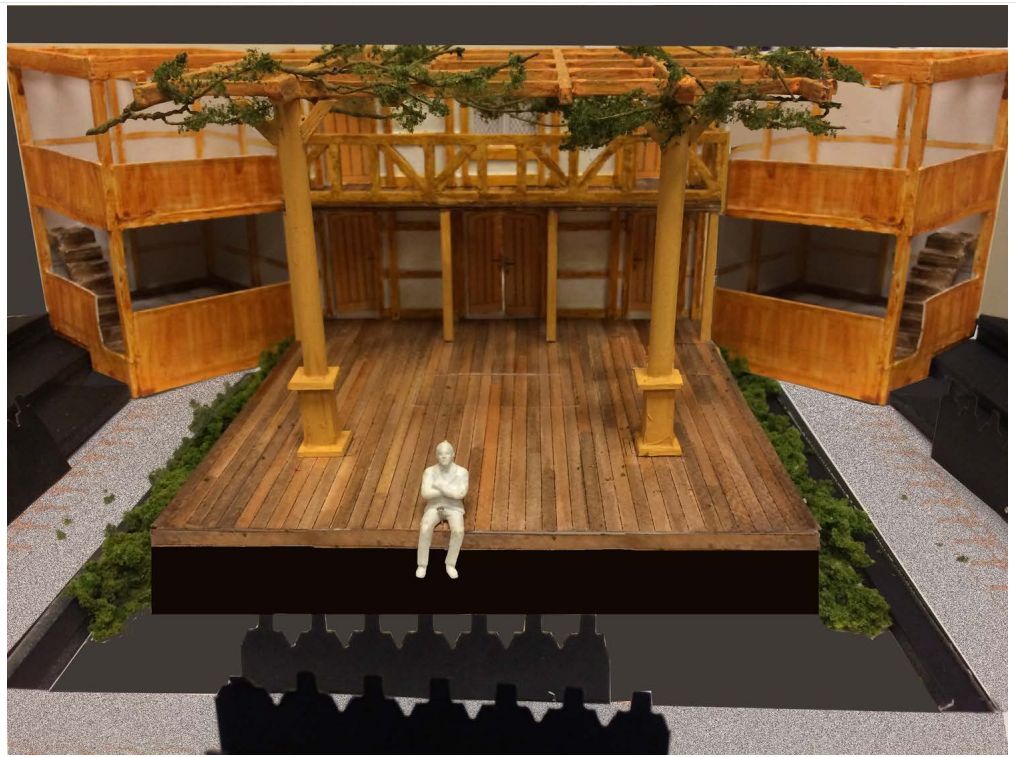
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UM School of Theatre & Dance brings London's Globe Theatre to Missoula

September 28, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance's production of "As You Like It" marks the beginning of a new project for the school: the construction of a reusable set that is an homage to London's famed "wooden O," better known as Shakespeare's Globe.

Shakespeare staged many of his plays in the original Globe Theatre, built in 1599. UM faculty and staff decided to build



a scaled replica of the space to create the opportunity to practice and perform Shakespeare's plays as they would have been produced in his lifetime.

The ongoing project will be undertaken with a set the school intends to keep and reuse for multiple productions in the coming years. The center two-story element of the set was built for "As You Like It," while the remaining side towers – to be used by both actors and audiences – will be built at a later date.

The set will eventually include a trap in the stage floor, and additional small scenic elements will be added for different productions.

"The School of Theatre & Dance couldn't be more excited and proud to bring this historical – and yet innovative – project to audiences," said UM theater Professor Alessia Carpoca, who designed the Globe replica for Montana performances.

"As You Like It," directed by UM Associate Professor of Theater John Kenneth DeBoer, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 11-14, and Oct. 18-21, as well as at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15 and 22, in the Masquer Theatre in UM's Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

General admission tickets cost \$16, while senior and student tickets cost \$14. Admission for children 12 and under is \$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or ordering online at www.umt.edu/theatredance.

For more information, call Carpoca at 406-243-4481 or email alessia.carpoca@umontana.edu. A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the 2017-18 academic year is online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/17-18-season.php>.

Contact: Alessia Carpoca, UM professor of theater, 406-243-4481, alessia.carpoca@umontana.edu.



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Merriam-Frontier Writing Competition Open to UM Students

September 29, 2017

MISSOULA – The Creative Writing Program at the University of Montana is accepting submissions for the 2018 Merriam-Frontier Award.

The annual writing competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at UM during fall semester 2017. The award was established by H.G. Merriam, UM professor of English and creative writing from 1919 to 1954, and consists of a \$500 prize and publication of the winning entry as a chapbook.

Submissions are limited to one per student and must include a cover page with the title of the manuscript, student's name, email, phone number and address. All entries must be delivered to Liberal Arts Building Room 133 and emailed to karin.schalm@umontana.edu by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20.

The manuscripts will be judged by a committee of local writers. A winner will be announced Friday, Feb. 9, 2018, and will be invited to give a public reading.

Entries for the Merriam-Frontier should be in one of the following categories:

- **Poetry:** 20 to 30 pages
- **Fiction:** one or more stories (40 to 60 double-spaced pages)
- **Creative nonfiction:** one or more essays (40 to 60 double-spaced pages)

Frontier, later titled Frontier and Midland, was a distinguished quarterly journal founded and edited by Merriam and published at UM from 1920 to 1939. Contributors included then-emerging talents Wallace Stegner, A.B. Guthrie Jr., William Saroyan, Dorothy Johnson, John Mason Brown, Weldon Kees, Thomas McGrath and many others. A particular strength of the journal was its frequent publication of work by young authors, a tradition the Merriam-Frontier Award honors and continues.

More information is available online at <http://www.hs.umt.edu/creativewriting/>.

###

Contact: Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.



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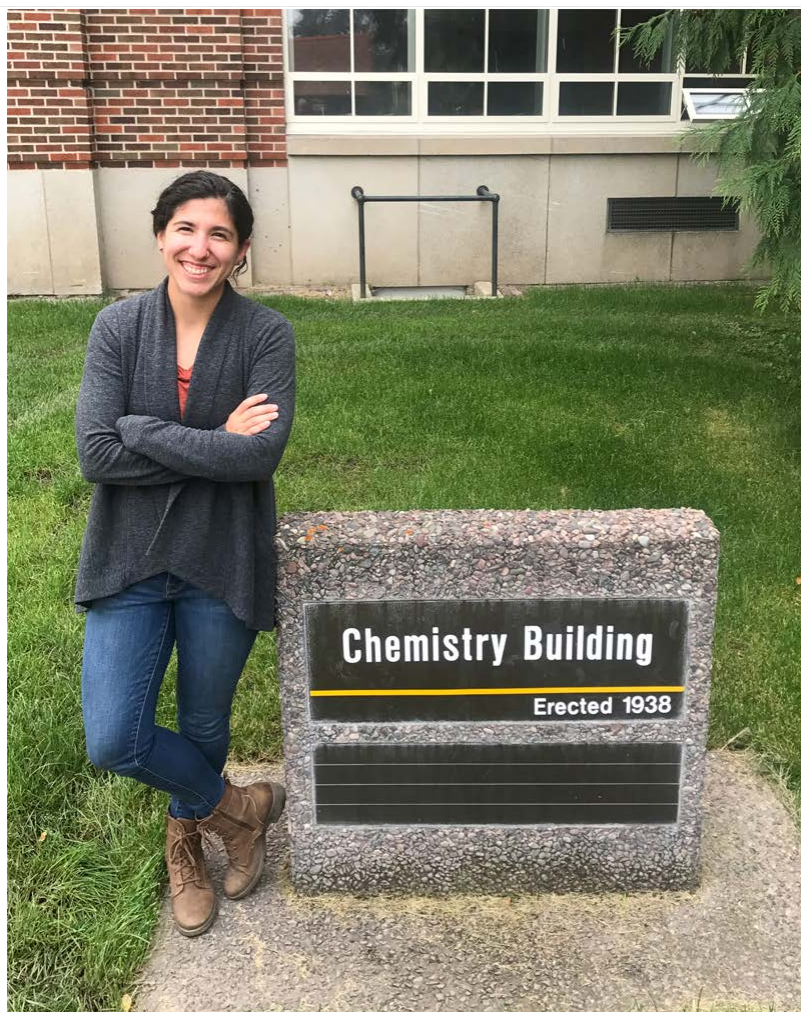
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UM Graduate Student Earns Two Fellowships to Conduct Research in France

September 28, 2017

MISSOULA – University of Montana chemistry graduate student Asia Riel has received a STEM Chateaubriand Fellowship. The Fellowship, offered by the Embassy of France in the United States, allows doctoral students from the U.S. to conduct research in France for up to nine months.

Riel's research in UM Professor Orion Berryman's lab is focused on producing halogen bonding organic molecules for anion recognition and organocatalysis. In France, Riel will study



electrochemistry and crystallography in Professor Marc Fourmigué's lab at Université de Rennes 1.

In addition to the Chateaubriand Fellowship, Riel received another fellowship from the Rennes Métropole, which funds foreign doctoral students to conduct research in Rennes. Combined, these fellowships will initiate an international collaboration between the Berryman and Fourmigué labs.

Riel graduated from University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 2013 with a bachelor's in chemistry and a minor in French. She started her Ph.D. program at UM later that year.

"I never thought I would be able to combine chemistry and French," Riel said. "These fellowships will help start an international collaboration, while fulfilling a lifelong dream of living in France. I'm so grateful for this opportunity."

Contact: Orion Berryman, UM professor, 406-243-4022, orion.berryman@mso.umt.edu.

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UM Mansfield Center to Host Experts on Tensions on the Korean Peninsula

September 28, 2017

MISSOULA – The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana will host multiple experts to weigh in on tensions in the Korean Peninsula, including a North Korean defector, at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9, in the University Center Theater.

“Tensions on the Korean Peninsula: Geopolitics, Instability and the Nuclear Weapons Crisis” will feature Y. Kang, a North Korean defector; Greg Scarlatoiu, executive director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea; and Scott Snyder, senior fellow for Korean studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. The session is free and open to the public, but attendees are asked to RSVP online at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/> or by calling 406-243-2988.

Despite multiple sanctions from the United Nations, North Korea has continued to develop its ability to launch an intercontinental missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. This year alone, North Korea has conducted 15 ballistic missile tests, and leader Kim Jong Un already has overseen more missile tests than his father and grandfather combined. As South Korea recovers from its own political turmoil after the impeachment of President Park Geun-Hye and the United States president takes a hard line against North Korea on the world stage, serious questions arise about future stability and security on the Korean Peninsula and how it will affect U.S. allies, such as

Japan and South Korea, and the U.S. itself.

Kang was born in North Korea and lived there until defecting to South Korea at the age of 19. Since defecting, she has completed her studies in political science and diplomacy at Hanyang University in Seoul, South Korea, and she has educated others on the social, political and cultural differences between North and South Korea, as well as the potential impacts of Korean reunification. Kang now works at the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, coordinating events and developing a video series on North Korean culture and dialect.

Scarlatoiu is the executive director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea in Washington, D.C. He has directed the publication of 24 reports and books; led public, media and international outreach to highlight North Korean human rights abuses; and appeared as an expert witness at several congressional hearings on North Korean human rights. His recent publications have appeared in the International Council of Korean Studies and the Asian Institute for Policy Studies, as well as in the Washington Post and Washington Times. He also teaches at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute. Scarlatoiu holds a Master of Arts in law and diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University, and master's and bachelor's degrees in international relations from Seoul National University.

Snyder is the senior fellow for Korean studies and director of the program on U.S.-Korean policy at the Council on Foreign Relations. He has worked as a senior associate in the international relations program of The Asia Foundation, where he founded and directed the Center for U.S.-Korea Policy and served as The Asia Foundation's representative in Korea. He has provided advice to NGOs and humanitarian organizations active in North Korea and serves as co-chair of the advisory council of the National Committee on North Korea. Snyder's published works include "The Japan-South Korea Identity Clash: East Asian Security and the United States," "Paved with Good Intentions: The NGO Experience in North Korea," and "Negotiating on the Edge: North Korean Negotiating Behavior." Snyder received a Bachelor of Arts from Rice University and a Master of Arts from the regional studies East Asian program at Harvard University.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM promotes better understanding of Asia, U.S. relations with Asia and ethics in public affairs in the spirit of Sen. Mike Mansfield (1903-2001) and his wife and life partner, Maureen Hayes Mansfield. The center houses programs that focus on the peoples and cultures of modern Asia and ethics in public affairs – the core interests and hallmarks of Sen. Mansfield's career.

More information on the session is available at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield>.

Contact: Caitlin Sager, UM Mansfield Center program coordinator, 406-243-2965, caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.

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UM Selected to Receive Positive Engagement Grant

September 27, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana was selected as one of 40 institutions to receive funding from Campus Compact to bridge divides on campuses and in communities.

Campus Compact – a Boston-based nonprofit – received nearly 300 submissions from institutions nationwide vying for funding from its Fund for Positive Engagement.

The Fund for Positive Engagement was created by Campus Compact as a response to the divisive and destructive climate in the United States that took shape during the 2016 presidential campaign and has continued since. The purpose of the fund is to catalyze experiments in bridging divisions among people and groups in communities across the country.

Proposals were judged based on the strength of the idea, practicality and the degree to which it will be possible to measure success, among other criteria. Two-thirds of the reviewers were Newman Civic Fellows – young leaders nominated by college and university presidents who are part of Campus Compact.

The \$5,000 grant will allow UM's Positive Engagement project to bring Compassion Cultivation Training to UM students with the aim to increase empathy, facilitate communication across differences, develop positive relationships and encourage collaborative problem-solving.

CCT is an eight-week program designed by the Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education at Stanford University. It combines traditional contemplative practices with contemporary psychology and scientific research to help students train their minds to intentionally choose compassionate thoughts and actions in their daily lives.

UM Associate Director of Civic Engagement Colleen Kane will be certified to teach the CCT program in the spring.

"I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to bring Compassion Cultivation Training to UM, and I am excited to see how this programming helps increase positive engagement on campus," Kane said.

"We wanted to create an incentive for colleges and universities to come up with creative responses to the challenges they are seeing," said Andrew Seligsohn, president of Campus Compact. "We have been hearing from our member colleges and universities that students and community members cannot hold conversations with people with differing political views. Immigrant and Muslim students are afraid to express their views. Many community members see universities as completely separate universes with different values. We invited our members to propose steps to break through those divides, and we are excited by the proposals that came back."

For more information and full list of recipients, visit <https://compact.org/fund-positive-engagement/>.

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Contact: Colleen Kane, associate director of UM Civic Engagement, 406-243-5128, colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Campus Recreation Revives Intramural Dodgeball League

September 27, 2017

MISSOULA – Campus Recreation Intramural Sports at the University of Montana is bringing back dodgeball this fall. It was last offered in 2015. At its height in spring 2012, the league had 16 active teams. Intramural Sports decided to revive dodgeball because of a new staff member's enthusiasm for the sport.

"It was my favorite intramural sport in college," said Kristen Hoon, Intramural Sports and Youth Camps coordinator at Campus Recreation.

Men's, women's and co-recreational dodgeball league will begin the week of Oct. 9, and registration is due by 11 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4. Sign up is available at www.imleagues.com/umontana.

Intramural Sports student staff member Kyle Dyrud grew up playing dodgeball in elementary school and middle school, and says he's excited to referee the league.

"Its biggest appeal is that it will bring back good childhood memories," Dyrud said.

Plus, it has broad appeal due to the simplicity of the game.

“It’s something anyone can play,” Dyrud said. “If you can throw a ball, you can play dodgeball.”

For more information or to find an existing team to join, call Hoon at 406-243-5295 or email kristen.hoon@mso.umt.edu. Learn more about UM’s intramural sports at www.umt.edu/intramurals.

###

Contact: Andi Armstrong, assistant director of operations and marketing, UM Campus Recreation, 406-243-2806, andrea.armstrong@mso.umt.edu.



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Freshman Enrollment Increases at UM

September 27, 2017

MISSOULA – The incoming freshman class at the University of Montana grew nearly 2 percent from a year ago, with 1,292 students compared to 1,268 last year.

UM has an overall, preliminary fall enrollment headcount of 11,865 students. As officials expected, this represents a 4.5 percent decrease in total enrollment at the institution.

Fall 2017 undergraduate headcount enrollment at the central mountain campus was down 437 students, or 5.5 percent. The headcount for graduate students grew 10 percent.

Tom Crady, UM vice president for enrollment management and student affairs, was pleased to see the University's freshman class growing again.

"Stabilizing the incoming freshman class is the critical first step to reversing the overall enrollment decline," Crady said. "It indicates that the new strategies we're deploying are beginning to yield more students."

The full UM census report is online at <http://bit.ly/2wWj0E2>.

Missoula College has 317 fewer students, which signifies a decline of 15 percent, but the downturn is due primarily to a substantial reduction in dual enrollment. The number of high school students taking college courses at Missoula College this year is 280, which is less than half of the 583 who registered for the fall term last year.

"If dual enrollment would have stayed even with last year, Missoula College would have been down less than 1 percent," Crady said. "The reason for the decline in dual enrollment is unclear but may be due to increased interest in the International Baccalaureate Program, similar to dual enrollment, which also is recognized by UM."

Crady praised Emily Ferguson-Steger, Liz Stotts, Joe Carpenter and the team in the admissions office for their tireless efforts in working to bring in more students.

"In particular, the increases we see in Native American students – both at Missoula College and the mountain campus – and the increase in first-generation students on the mountain campus, are the direct result of the personal attention and service of our team members," he said.

The overall headcount of 11,865 students exceeds the projected 11,465 upon which UM prepared the FY18 budget.

Rosi Keller, UM interim vice president for administration and finance, cautioned that significant budget challenges still exist for the campus.

"We have encouraging enrollment numbers, but we need to understand the mix of resident and nonresident, the full-time students and other factors that will ultimately determine our tuition revenue," Keller said. "Our current enrollment number includes students who are waiting on late financial aid or, for other reasons, have not finalized their payment. It will be a little later in the term before we have final revenue numbers."

The Montana University System is awaiting news as to the extent of additional budget reductions that will be required to address the state's budget challenges. All units, including UM, will see state general fund reductions.

UM's enrollment was a key topic of discussion for each of the four presidential finalists who visited campus earlier this month. Many of the candidates addressed the value of a UM education – with its excellent academic programs, incredible setting and the success of its research and philanthropy as indicators for a bright future.

###

Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, paula.short@umontana.edu.

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UM Creative Writing Program to Host Poetry Reading on Change

September 26, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Creative Writing Program and Montana Book Festival, along with 100 Thousand Poets for Change, will host a poetry reading from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 30, at the Missoula Art Museum outdoor park, located at 335 N. Pattee St.

Graduate students in the Creative Writing Program at UM have curated the Missoula event, selecting a diverse group of readers from the submissions. The selected poems all revolve around the theme of change.

“While compiling entries, our judges were impressed at the vulnerability and rigor of the submissions in response to the Global Day of Change,” said Jordan Chestnut, a second-year MFA poet. “As poets, we have the gift of collectively envisioning and interpreting historical events. We hope this event will reflect the diverse interpretations and applications of the word ‘change’ – rightfully layered – in relations to the self, the environment and social justice.”

Since 2011, 100 Thousand Poets for Change has organized events around the world to promote peace, justice and sustainability. Sept. 30 is the organization’s “Global Event Day,” and poets around the world will read poems calling

for positive change in social and environmental justice issues. To learn more visit <http://100tpc.org/>.

For more information on UM's Creative Writing Program, call Karin Schalm, program coordinator, at 406-243-5267, email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu or visit <http://hs.umt.edu/creativewriting/>.

Contact: Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing program coordinator, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Outdoor Gear Sale Returns Campus Oct. 11

September 26, 2017

MISSOULA – The Outdoor Gear Sale organized by the University of Montana’s Outdoor Program will take place from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, in the University Center Atrium. Students and the general public are invited to buy or sell used outdoor equipment including bikes, skiing equipment, climbing gear, camping gear, clothing and more.

Those interested in selling gear can drop off their items between 7 and 11 a.m. the day of the sale in the UC Atrium. Sellers can pick up unsold gear and receive a cash payout for their sold items between 6 and 7:30 p.m. the same day. The UM Outdoor Program will collect 20 percent of the selling price and uses the proceeds to new programs and equipment for the Outdoor Program.

The UM Outdoor Program also seeks volunteers to help with the event. Flexible shifts and roles are available throughout the day, and those that work at least three hours gain access to a special preview sale. To volunteer call 406-243-5172 or email crecop@mso.umt.edu.

For more information call 406-243-5172 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/crec/Outdoor/special-programs.php>.

###

Contact: Andi Armstrong, assistant director of operations and marketing, UM Campus Recreation, 406-243-2806, andrea.armstrong@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Lands \$1.8M Grant to Integrate Behavioral Health Services into Primary Care

September 25, 2017

MISSOULA – A team of collaborators from the University of Montana and Montana State University recently were awarded a \$1.8 million grant, which will be used over four years, to enhance the ability of agencies throughout western Montana to meet the behavioral health needs of their clients, while simultaneously developing a workforce of providers trained in interdisciplinary settings.

The Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program, which is funded by the Health Resource and Services Administration, will integrate behavioral health services into primary care clinics and settings, with a focus on rural areas and underserved populations.

Currently enrolled UM graduate students working toward their behavioral health degrees to become advanced practitioners will receive funding to provide these integrated services at rural sites.

"We're eager connect our students with hands-on experiences that will help them to meet the need for behavioral health services in rural areas in western Montana," said Bryan Cochran, UM psychology professor and director of clinical training.

Team collaborators are Cochran, Mary-Ann Bowman, UM School of Social Work; John Sommers-Flanagan, UM Department of Counselor Education; and Rebecca Bourret, MSU Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate program.

###

Contact: Bryan Cochran, professor and director of clinical training, UM Department of Psychology, 406-243-2391, bryan.cochran@mso.umt.edu; Sara Laney, Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program project manager, 406-243-5575, sara.laney@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Hosts Southeastern Asia Fellows, Provides Cultural Exchange Opportunities

September 22, 2017

MISSOULA – As part of its mission to promote global connections for Montanans, the University of Montana's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center has arranged a rich opportunity for local residents – including school-aged children – to learn about the people and cultures of Southeast Asia.

The Mansfield Center is hosting fellows of the U.S. Department of State's Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative for five



weeks. This year's YSEALI fellows, ranging in age from 18 to 25, represent nine of the 10 countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The group will spend the first four weeks in western Montana for a study in environmental issues linked to economics, social justice and transboundary relationships.

YSEALI fellows spent Thursday morning with Missoula's Lewis and Clark elementary students in support of the school's global education curriculum. The fellows shared songs, dances and local traditions with kindergarten through fifth grade students. In return, the students shared their own American games, songs and activities.

During the rest of their visit in Montana, fellows balance their time between academic sessions, UM courses and visits to the Flathead Reservation, Butte, Hamilton, Helena, Ravalli and Glacier National Park, which include sessions with the Department of Environmental Quality, local farmers, numerous Missoula nonprofits and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

For the final week of the American visit, the Mansfield Center will take the fellows to New Orleans and Washington, D.C.

The visit coincides with the 50-year anniversary of the founding of ASEAN and the 40th anniversary of US-ASEAN relations. Just as ASEAN was founded to promote political and economic cooperation across Southeast Asia, the YSEALI program seeks to expand that spirit of cooperation across the world by fostering cross-cultural partnerships, youth leadership and lasting diplomatic ties.

Missoula is one of only a handful of American cities selected to host a YSEALI program.

For more information call Caitlin Sager with the Mansfield Center at 406-240-6226.

###

Contact: Caitlin Sager, program coordinator, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2965,
caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.



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Montana College Students Volunteer More Than 200,000 Hours of Service

September 22, 2017

MISSOULA – College students in Montana provided 214,054 hours of volunteer service during the 2016-17 academic year and that's just one highlight from Montana Campus Compact's recently released IMPACT Report for 2016-17.

Hosted by the University of Montana, MTCC is a network of 18 higher education institutions around the state that works to improve community life and educate students on civic and social responsibility. Montana Campus Compact is a member of the national Campus Compact, a network of over 1,000 colleges and universities dedicated to the public service mission of higher education.

"Colleges and universities in Montana are huge contributors to our communities," said MTCC Executive Director Andrea Vernon. "From student volunteers to campus-community partnerships, higher education is shaping the future of democracy in our state, and students are learning the values of active citizenship and hard work as they give back."

Highlights from the 2016-17 report include:

- 6,021 Montana students performed 214,054 hours of volunteer service.
- Student volunteerism in Montana had an economic impact of \$4.5 million.
- In 2017, 100 incoming freshmen were awarded \$1,000 Youth Serve Montana Scholarships.
- 11 Montana students earned Newman Civic Fellowships.
- Summer programming provided by AmeriCorps served 5,360 Montana youth.
- AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA members recruited 2,061 volunteers who performed 22,297 hours of service.
- University of Montana Professor Robin Saha received the national Ehrlich Award for Service Learning.
- AmeriCorps VISTA members leveraged \$117,755 in cash resources to anti-poverty work.
- AmeriCorps College Access programming reached 2,387 Montana youth.
- MTCC campuses provided \$62,517 in matching funds for AmeriCorps Education Award Vouchers.

The report is available in PDF format at <https://www.mtcompact.org/files/documents/4-MTCC%20Report.pdf>.

For more information about Campus Compact, visit <http://www.mtcompact.org/>.

###

Contact: Josh Vanek, Montana Campus Compact, 406-243-5175, vanek@mtcompact.org.



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UM Dining Sets Sights on James Beard Award for Burger

September 21, 2017

MISSOULA – UM Dining at the



University of Montana is turning

the tables on the classic all-American burger by revealing the secret to its popular recipe: mushrooms and a carefully seasoned blend of grass-fed, grass-finished beef from Yellowstone Grassfed Beef. Now, that blend is up for a culinary award from the James Beard Foundation.

For three summers running, chefs nationwide have reimagined the classic American burger via JBF's Blended Burger Project, a competition that challenges chefs to blend mushrooms with meat for a more delicious, nutritious and sustainable meal. For the first time, JBF is bringing the competition to campuses across the nation this fall.

Besides the benefit of offering healthier burger options, chefs around the globe have found that including ingredients like mushrooms and leafy greens can actually enhance flavor and juiciness. Developing blended burgers and other plant-forward menu options supports UM Dining's commitment to sustainable practices.

UM Dining is a member of Menus of Change, an initiative from the Culinary Institute of America and Harvard T.H.

Chan School of Public Health, and a founding member of the Menus of Change University Research Council. By continuing to introduce new plant-forward options in its restaurants and dining hall, UM Dining hopes that students, faculty, staff and guests will enjoy the delicious, nutritious (though occasionally indulgent) food served at the University.

The blended burger is available at the Food Zoo and Corner Store in the Lommasson Center and at 406 Grill in the University Center Food Court.

The James Beard Foundation is a national nonprofit based in New York City, named for the late James Beard, a cookbook author, teacher and champion of American cuisine. Today, the foundation celebrates chefs and other food leaders who make America's food culture more delicious, diverse and sustainable for everyone.

To vote for UM Dining's blended burger, visit <http://bit.ly/2x8LZck>. Voters will be entered to win a \$1,000 on-campus dining gift certificate or a \$100 VISA gift card. The competition is open through December.

Contact: Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, 406-243-5089, samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.



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Planetarium Shows to Dive into Cassini's Grand Finale, Travel 'on a Beam of Light'

September 21, 2017

MISSOULA – Astronomers will guide audiences through the grand finale of NASA's Cassini spacecraft at Saturn and take them on a journey "on a beam of light" during upcoming planetarium shows at the University of Montana.

UM's Department of Physics and Astronomy invites the public to its fall semester shows in the Payne Family Native American Center Star Gazing Room at 6:30 and 8 p.m. every other Friday from Sept. 22 to Dec. 1. The schedule is:

- **Sept. 22:** "Cassini's Grand Finale at Saturn," presented by Dan Reisenfeld, UM physics and astronomy professor.
- **Oct. 6:** "Traveling on a Beam of Light," presented by Mark Reiser, outreach coordinator.
- **Oct. 20:** "Traveling on a Beam of Light," presented by Reiser.
- **Nov. 3:** "Traveling on a Beam of Light," presented by Reiser.
- **Nov. 17:** Program TBA, presented by Diane Friend, physics and astronomy lecturer.
- **Dec. 1:** Program TBA, presented by Reisenfeld.

Tickets cost \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 12 and under and are available for purchase at

<http://hs.umt.edu/physics/Outreach/default.php>. The maximum capacity for public shows is 28 people, so tickets are limited. Shows often sell out in advance, and tickets cannot be purchased at the door.

Attendees should arrive 10 minutes before the beginning of the show to check in. The planetarium entrance will be locked after the show begins. As part of the Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute, UM's planetarium is housed in the Star Gazing Room in the basement of the Native American Center.

The UM Department of Physics and Astronomy is currently scheduling spring semester shows for youth and student groups, as well as private/community-based groups. For more information about booking a group event, visit <http://hs.umt.edu/physics/Outreach/default.php>.

Contact: Mark Reiser, outreach coordinator, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy, 406-243-2074, mark.reiser@umontana.edu.



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UM School of Theatre & Dance to Present 'As You Like It'

September 21, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will present the Shakespearean classic “As You Like It” to audiences next month.

“As You Like It,” directed by UM Associate Professor of Theater John Kenneth DeBoer, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 11-14, and Oct. 18-21, as well as at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15 and 22, in the Masquer Theatre in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

General admission tickets cost \$16, while senior and student tickets cost \$14. Admission for children 12 and under is \$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or by ordering online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/>.

With its themes of love, forgiveness and justice, pastoral comedy “As You Like It” is one of the Bard’s most enduring and romantic tales. Proto-feminist Rosalind and her loyal cousin Celia take refuge in the Forest of Arden and cross paths with a series of fellow courtiers as well as country folk. Disguises, love at first sight, bad poetry and even a lioness intertwine in the play to form a delightful backdrop for some of Shakespeare’s most famous phrases.

"We decided to open this season with a production that touches on contemporary themes and also honors the roots of Western theater," DeBoer said. "We are attempting to recreate the Elizabethan experience of attending a play while also constructing a set that we can return to, embellish and reinvent for years to come. It is exciting to see this first attempt at building a space in the Masquer Theatre that invokes the Elizabethan stage."

For more information, call DeBoer at 406-243-4481 or email john.deboer@umontana.edu. A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the 2017-18 academic year is online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/17-18-season.php>.

Contact: John Kenneth DeBoer, UM associate professor of theater, 406-243-4481, john.deboer@umontana.edu.



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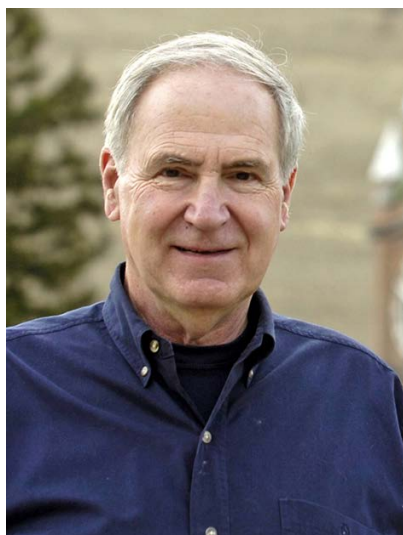
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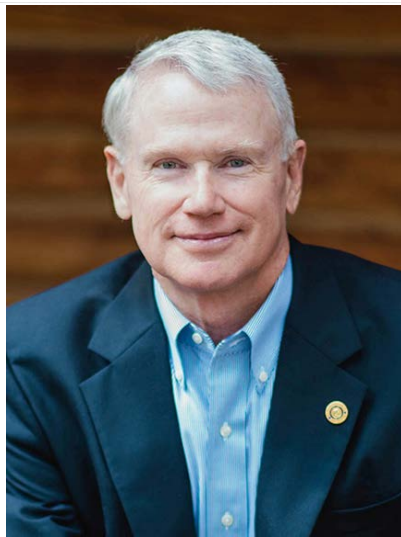
UM Names Five Recipients of 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award

September 20, 2017



MISSOULA – Five exemplary University of Montana graduates will receive 2017 Distinguished Alumni Awards during Homecoming weekend festivities on Friday and Saturday, Oct.

13-14. The awards are the highest honor



presented by UM's Alumni Association.

This year's distinguished alumni are William Finnegan M.F.A. '78 of **New York City**; Harry Fritz M.A. '62 of Missoula; Ramakrishna Nemani Ph.D. '87 of **Sunnyvale, California**; Dr. Robert "Bob" Seim '59 of Missoula; and James "Scott" Wheeler '69 of **Kalispell**.

Finnegan, who earned a master's degree in creative writing from UM, is an award-winning journalist who's been a staff writer for The New

Yorker since 1987. He's spent the majority of his career writing in-depth features on conflicts at home and abroad, reporting on everything from apartheid in South Africa to the politics of immigration reform in the U.S. In 2016, Finnegan's surfing memoir, "Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life," won a Pulitzer Prize. The New York Times best-seller chronicles his "youthful obsession" during his formative years as he traveled the world looking for the next big wave. He has earned numerous accolades for his reporting as well, and his research and reporting have resulted in several nonfiction publications, including "Cold New World: Growing Up in a Harder Country."

An active and respected scholar and a generous colleague and mentor, Fritz, who earned a master's degree in history from UM, is an engaging and dedicated teacher who shared his passion for history with thousands of students during his 50-year career as a professor at the University. Few historians are able to bring to the lectern as much energy, good humor and sheer love of storytelling as Fritz; fewer still can do so with his democratic unpretentiousness. Fritz's service to the state of Montana has been recognized by a host of awards and commendations, and he extended his public service beyond the classroom by serving two terms in the Montana House of Representatives and one in the Senate.

A pioneer in satellite-driven ecological forecasting technology, Nemani, who earned a doctorate in forestry from UM, is the director of NASA's Ecological Forecasting Laboratory. His work, which he started at UM, is the basis NASA Earth Observing System's weekly monitor of global plant production, a unique global dataset used by scientists worldwide. Nemani, whose rank of senior research scientist is attained by only one in 1,000 NASA employees, developed and leads a modeling framework called the Terrestrial Observation and Prediction System. TOPS produces ecological nowcasts and forecasts using satellite and climate data and is a crucial tool used in global carbon monitoring, helping address issues related to water, natural hazards, carbon emissions and sequestration, agricultural productivity, public health and urban planning.

Seim, who earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology and public health from UM, has distinguished himself as a physician, community leader, nonprofit board member and mentor. After earning his medical degree and becoming board-certified, Seim served in the U.S. Army before establishing a long career in orthopedic surgery in Missoula and at the Kalispell Veterans Administration Hospital. Following his retirement in 2015 after three decades at Missoula Bone and Joint, Seim continued to serve Montana veterans through his work with VA orthopedic clinics. He's also demonstrated steadfast commitment to his community and the University over the years as a longtime and active member of the Missoula Rotary Club and by serving on the boards of the Grizzly Scholarship Association, UM Alumni Association and UM Foundation.

After graduating from UM with a bachelor's degree in history, Wheeler joined the U.S. Army and was commissioned a second lieutenant, beginning his long, distinguished military career. He served several years overseas, including in Vietnam, before earning advanced degrees in history at the University of California, Berkeley. He then served a year as a White House Fellow in the U.S. Department of Energy before becoming a history professor at West Point. Wheeler retired from the military and returned to Montana to pursue his love of history, publishing several books, including "Cromwell in Ireland." He's also served as a senior military analyst for the U.S. Army in Europe, and he leads tours of historic battlefields throughout Europe for the Department of Defense.

The public is invited to attend a panel discussion featuring the Distinguished Alumni Award recipients at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13, in the University Center Ballroom. An awards ceremony and reception will follow.

###

Contact: Jodi Moreau, events coordinator/board liaison, UM Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association, 406-243-6124, jodi.moreau@umontana.edu.



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UM's MPA Program Ranked Among Top Affordable Online Programs

September 20, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Master of Public Administration program was once again lauded as a top online program nationwide. AffordableColleges.com ranked UM's MPA program No. 18 out of 50 in a review of schools across the nation, noting its quality and affordability.

The online ranking touts that the University of Montana's MPA program provides “everyone involved with a great deal of personal attention.”

The full ranking can be viewed online at <http://www.affordablecolleges.com/rankings/affordable-online-mpa-programs/>.

“We are honored to be recognized as one of the best in the nation,” said Sara Rinfret, associate professor of political science and the director of UM's MPA program. “Our students are truly remarkable and our mission is to provide flexibility in course delivery by offering a high-quality and affordable education for public service professionals to advance in their current and future careers.”

The core curriculum of an MPA program typically focuses on public budgeting, ethics, policy analysis, and the structure and behavior of organizations.

UM offers students the ability to complete their degree online or in person, providing flexibility for public and nonprofit professionals to advance their current and future careers. The program allows students to customize their degree by specializing in nonprofit administration or a joint degree in law. Many students elect to add a certificate in nonprofit administration or natural resource conflict resolution.

AffordableColleges.com assembles rankings to help prospective students find affordable schools and programs that match their educational interests. Learn about the ranking methodology online at <http://www.affordablecolleges.com/methodology/>.

For more information about the UM's MPA program, visit <http://www.umt.edu/mpa/>.

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Contact: Sara Rinfret, UM associate professor of political science, Masters of Public Administration director, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@umontana.edu.



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Tickets on Sale for The Stone Foxes with Rotgut Whines at UM

September 20, 2017

MISSOULA – San Francisco's energetic rock band The Stone Foxes, together with Montana's soulful duo Rotgut Whines, will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9, in the University Center Ballroom at the University of Montana. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Known for their commanding stage presence, even jumping down into the crowd if the mood strikes, The Stone Foxes aim to deliver an action-packed show to their fans.

According to The Stone Foxes website, this is not a sit-down-and-watch kind of event. "Like Elvis once said about rock 'n' roll, 'If you feel it, you can't help but move to it.' The Stone Foxes' live show brandishes this kind of dynamic passion on stage. It's impossible not to feel it."

The Stone Foxes bear the torch of their predecessors with the knowledge that rock-and-roll can move a new generation. They've played in front of thousands at festivals such as Outside Lands and Voodoo Fest, they've headlined the legendary Fillmore Theater in their hometown and they have supported acts such as The Black Keys, Cage the Elephant and ZZ Top. Now, with the release of their fourth album, "Twelve Spells," they have solidified a

place in their city's rich rock 'n' roll history.

Founded by brothers Shannon (vocals/drums/harp) and Spence Koehler (guitar/vocals), who came from the Sierra Nevada foothills near Tollhouse, California, The Stone Foxes started playing during Koehler's San Francisco State University days in the Sunset District of San Francisco. As their music continued to grow and they began touring, the duo expanded by adding Elliott Peltzman (keyboard), Brian Bakalian (drums/bass/guitar), Vince Dewald (vocals/guitar) and Ben Andrews (violin/guitar) to the band.

Rotgut Whines combines soulful rhythms with energizing tempos and passionate storytelling to create their signature sound: "Fingerpickin' Soul and Roll." Lead singer/guitarist Evan Manuel and drummer/backup vocalist Andrew Murphy prove wrong the old adage that there is strength in numbers.

According to the band, "Murphy's crisp beats and deep baritone voice provide the perfect supplements to Manuel's flying fingers and catchy melodies. First-time listeners are often shocked at the pair's ability to create the powerful sound some fans have described as 'magic.'"

Tickets cost \$20 plus applicable fees and can be purchased at Rockin' Rudy's and Ear Candy Music. They will also be available for purchase at the door.

For more information call Johnson at 541-633-0720 or email marketing@umproductions.org.

###

Contact: Will Johnson, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 541-633-0720, marketing@umproductions.org.



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Two UM Researchers Receive National Science Foundation Fellowships

September 21, 2017

MISSOULA – Two University of Montana researchers on the frontiers of science and engineering are among 30 faculty members nationwide recently selected as recipients of the National Science Foundation Fellowship.

Brian Chaffin, an assistant professor of water policy, and Tung-Chung Mou, an assistant professor of biological sciences, will receive funding to conduct research in their respective areas of specialty: policies to transform degraded agricultural systems and cryo-electron microscopy.

“These two research awards are a continuing indication of the high quality of new faculty who are being recruited to the University of Montana,” said Scott Whittenburg, vice president for research and creative scholarship. “These awards also demonstrate the faculty commitment to conducting world-class research of interest to the National Science Foundation.”

The NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4 fellowship awarded nearly \$5.6 million to researchers in 20 states who want to build skills and collaborative capacity through partnerships with premier research institutions.

Chaffin, who works in UM's W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, received \$214,000. He will partner with ecologists at the University of Nebraska and the U.S. Geological Survey - Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit to study the coupling of social and ecological changes in the Middle Platte River watershed of central Nebraska. Chaffin hopes to discover links between policy mechanisms and ecological change in order to isolate causes of environmental degradation and inspire improvements toward sustainability of agriculture, human well-being and ecological diversity in that system.

Chaffin said the grant provides a unique, cross-disciplinary collaboration that can potentially benefit his future research in Montana.

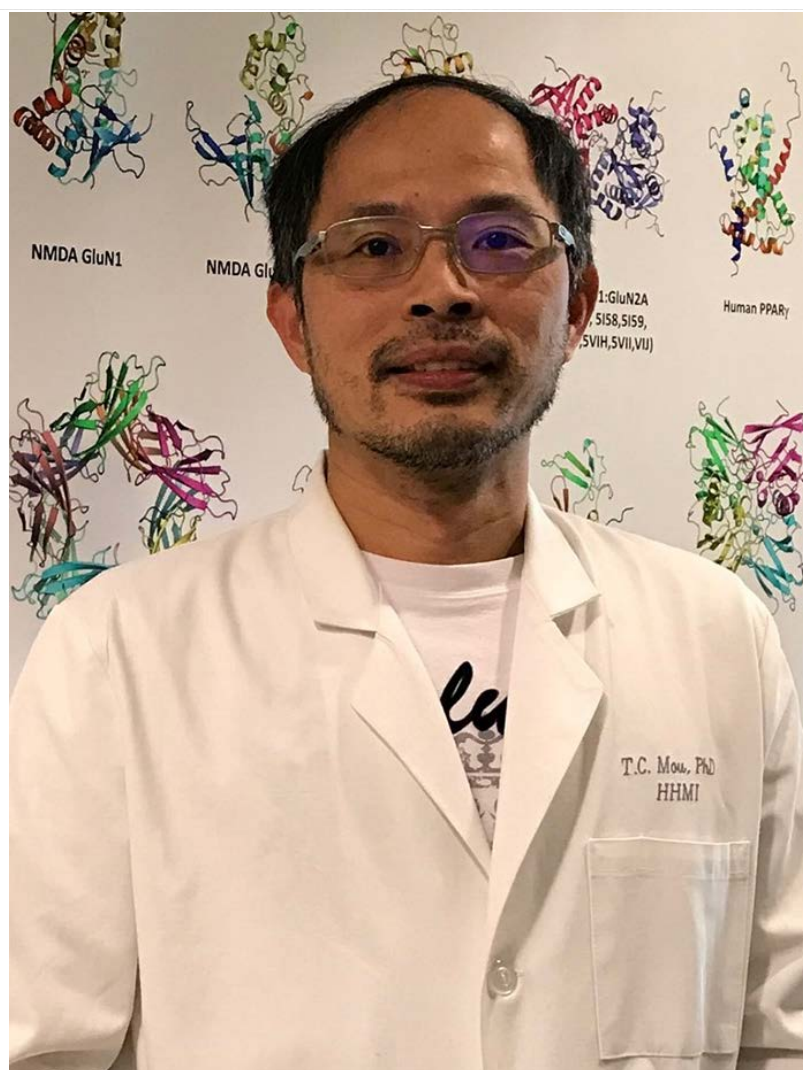
"I hope to translate the skills and tools developed through this fellowship into actionable research on Montana's agricultural landscapes, further exploring ways in which local and state policies can be leveraged for agricultural, ecological and community sustainability against a backdrop of climate uncertainty and environmental change," Chaffin said.



Mou manages UM's macromolecular X-ray diffraction core in the Division of Biological Sciences. He'll use his \$219,000 fellowship to obtain comprehensive training for himself and a graduate student at the National Center for Macromolecular Imaging at Stanford University.

"This cryo-EM training will allow me to collaborate with UM investigators to determine cryo-EM structures of biomolecules that are not amenable to conventional crystallography," Mou said. "Moreover, it will strengthen collaboration between the NCMI and UM, while effectively contributing to the development of comprehensive structure biology tools for UM's Macromolecular X-ray Diffraction Core Facility."

UM set a record in external research funding in



2017, which is highlighted online at <https://news.umt.edu/2017/07/072517rsch.php>.

Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6693, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu.



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Forest Thinning on Mount Sentinel to Begin This Week

September 20, 2017

MISSOULA – Missoula Parks and Recreation will begin a forest thinning project on Mount Sentinel this week.

The project is funded by a grant from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and done in cooperation with the University of Montana. The project area spans land owned by UM and the City of Missoula.

The work aims to improve the health of the forest on Mount Sentinel by thinning early growth Douglas fir saplings that are crowding the forest understory. The project site lies above the University's M Trail, and results of the work will be visible from the valley floor. The project will continue over the next few months.

Contractors will be accessing the project area from Crazy Canyon Road, as well as the fire road on Mount Sentinel.

"This is really intended to open up the forest for plant and animal diversity as well as tree health," said Morgan Valliant, Missoula open space manager.

###

Contact: Marilyn Marler, UM natural areas specialist, 406-544-7189, ; Morgan Valliant, manager, City of Missoula Open Space, 406-214-2692, mvalliant@ci.missoula.mt.us.



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Golf Tournament to Raise Funds for Speech Therapy Clinic Scholarships

September 20, 2017

MISSOULA – The annual Dolly Steward Memorial Golf Tournament will take place Sunday, Oct. 1, at the King Ranch Golf Course in Frenchtown. The event is a fundraiser for the DeWit RiteCare Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic at the University of Montana.

The clinic serves people of all ages who have communication challenges or disorders. Thanks to the generosity of the Western Montana Scottish Rite Foundation, clinic scholarships are available to clients in need of financial assistance. The annual golf tournament raises funds that go directly to providing those scholarships.

The Oct. 1 events will begin at 8 a.m. with a breakfast at King Ranch. Individuals and teams will begin playing golf at 10 a.m. There will be team prizes and hole prizes, and a dinner after the tournament.

Entry costs \$50 per player or \$200 for teams of four. Sponsorships are available for businesses. Masonic affiliation is not required for participation in the tournament. For more information or to sign up for the tournament, call Harlan Ockler at 406-626-4392 or Marv Clover at 406-626-4000.

For more information on the DeWit RiteCare Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic, call 406-243-2405, or visit <http://coehs.umt.edu/departments/csd/dewit-ritecare-clinic/default.php>.

Contact: Jennifer Schoffer Closson, director of clinical education, UM Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, 406-243-2405, jennifer.closson@mso.umt.edu.



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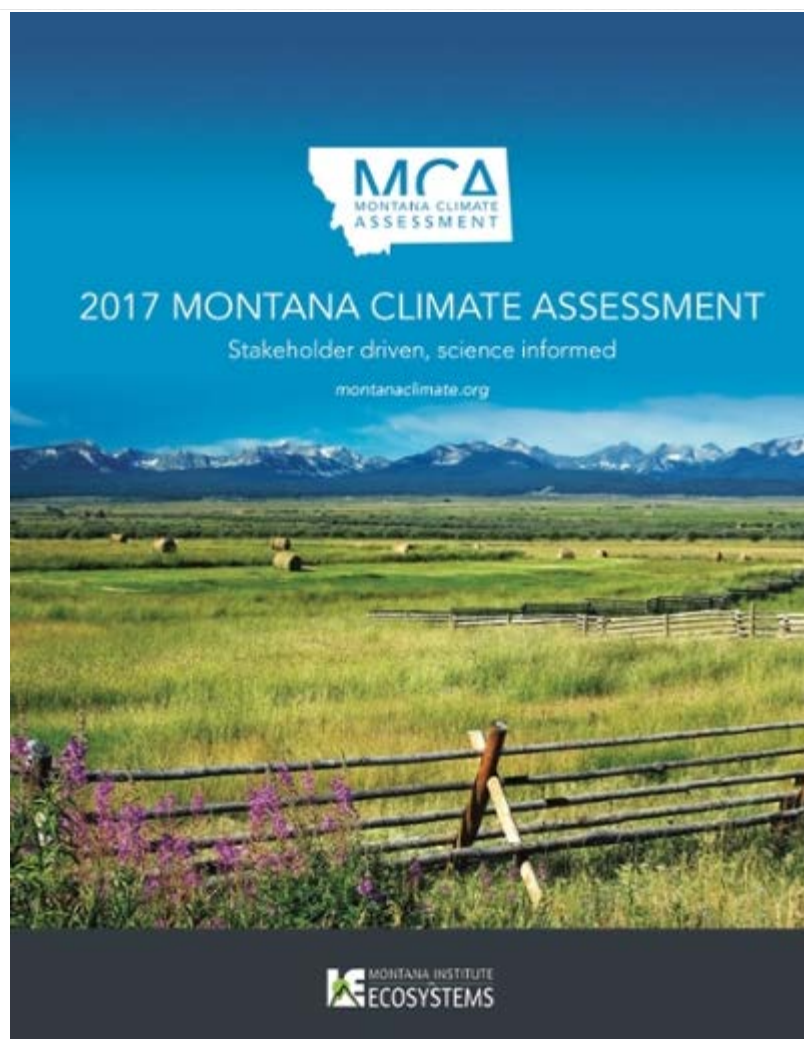
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New Assessment Reveals Future Climate Change Impacts

September 20, 2017

BOZEMAN – Montana has already felt the effects of a changing climate and will continue to feel further impacts in the coming decades, according to a new scientific assessment that looks at past climate trends and how they are projected to change in the future.

The Montana Climate Assessment is a product of the Montana University System's [Institute on Ecosystems](#), in collaboration with the [Montana Climate Office](#), [Montana Water Center](#) and [Montana State University Extension](#). The assessment, the first in a planned series, focuses on climate trends and their consequences for three of Montana's vital sectors: water, forests and



agriculture.

“The central goal of this effort was to create a product that would be useful to Montanans in planning for and adapting to a changing climate,” said lead author Cathy Whitlock, a professor of earth sciences and fellow of the Institute on Ecosystems at MSU. “The assessment’s findings foresee a hotter future for Montana, but it is the specific details about what this means that we hope citizens will find useful.”

“For years, stakeholders across the state have wondered how much Montana’s climate has changed and how much will it change in the future,” said Kelsey Jencso, director of the Montana Climate Office at the University of Montana. “The science to address this question has previously been performed at regional or national levels, and this assessment provides a first look at these trends and their impacts at a local level.”

Some of the key findings include:

- The number of days when temperatures exceed 90 degrees and the number of frost-free days are expected to increase. Increases in days above 90 degrees are expected to be greatest in the eastern part of the state.
- Montana’s snowpack has declined since the 1930s in mountains east and west of the Continental Divide. This decline has been most pronounced since the 1980s. Warming temperatures over the next century, especially during springtime, are likely to reduce snowpack at middle and lower elevations.
- Decreasing mountain snowpack will continue to lead to decreased streamflow and less reliable irrigation capacity during the late growing season.
- Montana’s growing season is lengthening – now 12 days longer than it was in 1950.
- More frost-free days and longer growing seasons may enable greater crop diversity. However, more 90-degree-plus days will also increase water loss via evaporation and transpiration from plants. In addition, hotter days will increase water demand for most crops, limit grain development and increase heat stress on livestock.
- Forest fires will be bigger, more frequent and more severe in the coming century.

The report is the product of a two-year effort by university researchers and students, state and federal researchers, nonprofit organizations, tribal colleges and citizens across the state.

Groups across Montana involved with agriculture, forestry, water and natural resource management, and tourism and recreation helped identify climate impacts on water, forests and agriculture as topics of high importance. The authors met with stakeholders, such as the [Montana Association of Conservation Districts](#), the [Montana Stockgrowers Association](#), the [Montana Grain Growers Association](#), and the [Farmer's Union](#), as well as state and federal agencies that provided input about what challenges climate change poses and what information they need to make decisions to deal with those challenges.

"The Montana Climate Assessment offers the ranching community valuable insight into recent and future climate variability," said Errol Rice, executive vice president of the Montana Stockgrowers Association. "This information will allow ranchers to better mitigate against weather-related risk factors, now and into the future."

The assessment underwent rigorous scientific peer review and broad public comment. Additionally, the report clarifies the level of confidence behind key findings, based on the consistency of the evidence among scientific reports. The assessment also identified knowledge gaps, and thus areas for future research.

"We strived to be as user-friendly as possible, and that includes being transparent about the confidence behind each key finding," said Bruce Maxwell, a professor in the MSU Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences and one of the assessment's lead authors. "One outcome of this assessment was identifying the need for future research on adaptation strategies in agriculture, forestry and water management."

The full assessment is available at <http://montanaclimate.org/>, along with a schedule of town hall meetings to be hosted by the authors this year across the state.

###

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UM to Host Missoula College Grand Opening

September 19, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will celebrate the grand opening of its new Missoula College Building at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22. Members of the public are invited to the festivities at 1205 E. Broadway.

Speakers will include Gov. Steve Bullock, Commissioner of Higher Education Clay Christian, UM President Sheila Stearns and MC Dean Shannon O'Brien.

The family of Salish Indian elder Louis Adams will provide a Native American blessing and honor song. Adams, who passed way in 2016, blessed the groundbreaking of the new building in August 2014.

Other special guests will include local members of Montana's 63rd Legislature, who appropriated \$29 million to fund the two-year college building in 2013. The Payne family, Blackfoot and other key donors also will be recognized.



Students from the college's award-winning Culinary Arts Program will provide treats, and members of the public are welcome to tour the new multistory, 115,000-square-foot structure after the formal program.

"This building will ensure we are nimble and quick to respond to Montana's workforce needs," O'Brien said. "This beautiful new structure is an investment in the economy and the future prosperity of Montana."

Located across the Clark Fork River from the central UM campus, the new building offers excellent views of the river, Mount Sentinel and Washington-Grizzly Stadium. UM officials have dubbed the area "the River Campus."

MC, the University's two-year educational unit, provides transfer, occupational and technical education in 35 program areas across five academic departments. Areas of study include business and health care professions, applied computing and electronics, and energy and industrial technologies.

The new building is home to state-of-the-art equipment and technology, including three culinary arts kitchens, a cybersecurity center with two labs, a math learning center, a cadaver lab and a bolstered library with expanded resources.

Formerly called the College of the Technology, MC has been an integral part of UM since it became an academic unit of the University in 1994. The original college opened as a vocational education center in 1967 in a building designed to serve several hundred students. When enrollment swelled to 2,200 and classes overflowed into outlying trailers, the Legislature took action to fund the new structure.



###

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UM Creative Writing Program to Celebrate Kittredge

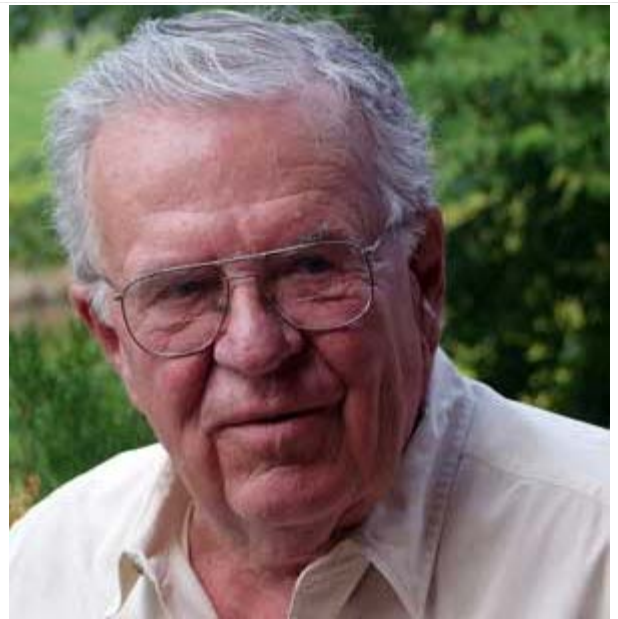
September 19, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Creative Writing program will celebrate Professor Emeritus William “Bill” Kittredge with its Lifetime Achievement Award at the upcoming Montana Book Festival.

A panel discussion about Kittredge is set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Missoula’s Downtown Dance Collective, located at 121 W. Main St. He also will be presented with an original print by artist David Miles Lusk.

The panelists – along with Kittredge – include UM Creative Writing Director Debra Earling, English Professor Deirdre McNamer, creative writing Lecturer Robert Stubblefield and author Kim Zupan. They will discuss their own literary and personal histories related to Kittredge.

Stubblefield will tell stories about their eastern Oregon roots and the lifelong friendship he and Kittredge share. Earling will discuss, along with McNamer and Zupan, Kittredge’s



importance to writers of the West.

Shawn McDermott, one of Kittredge's last students at UM – when Kittredge himself served as the 2012 Distinguished Kittredge Visiting Writer – will discuss the author's tremendous talents as a teacher and mentor.

In addition to the visiting writer position named in his honor, Kittredge's UM legacy includes 30 years of instruction.

"Bill wants to be remembered most for his teaching," said UM Creative Writing program coordinator Karin Schalm, who also is making a short film about Kittredge's life. "He taught so many successful writers at UM over the years – Jon Jackson, Pete Fromm, Kim Barnes, Judy Blunt, Andrew Sean Greer, the list goes on and on. We are delighted to be celebrating Bill and all of his achievements at the Montana Book Festival."

Kittredge is the author of two collections of short fiction, "The Van Gogh Fields and Other Stories" (1979) and "We Are Not In This Together" (1984); a novel, "The Willow Field" (2006); a memoir, "Hole in the Sky" (1992); and three collections of essays, "Owning It All" (1987), "Who Owns the West" (1996) and "The Next Rodeo: New and Selected Essays" (2006).

He has received a Stegner Fellowship, two NEA Fellowships, the Los Angeles Times Award for Lifetime Achievement, the National Humanities Award (presented by President Bill Clinton in 1994), Montana Governor's Award for the Arts, Montana Governor's Award for the Humanities and numerous other honors.

He was co-editor with Annick Smith of "The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology" and co-producer of the film "A River Runs Through It." He has published essays and articles in over 50 magazines, including the Atlantic, Harper's, Esquire, Time, Newsweek, The Washington Post and The New York Times.

For more information call Schalm at 406-243-5267 or email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.

###

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UM Jazz Artist Series Opens with Renowned Trombonist, All-Star Quartet

September 15, 2017

MISSOULA – The third annual University of Montana Jazz Artist Series will kick off Wednesday, Sept. 20, with a performance by the Marshall Gilkes Quartet.

Gilkes, an international award-winning trombonist and composer, will bring his all-star quartet to Missoula for a 7:30 p.m. performance at the UM Music Building Recital Hall. This is the first concert of the year in the Jazz Artist Series, which is organized by UM's Jazz Studies program.

Joining Gilkes are Jon Cowherd on piano, Matt Clohesy on bass and Mark Whitfield Jr. on drum set. These musicians, together with Gilkes, also will present three workshops for UM students:

- **3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19**, Music Building Room 1: "Don't Limit Yourself" with Gilkes.
- **11 am. Wednesday, Sept. 20**, Music Building Room 1: Drum Set Masterclass with Whitfield.
- **1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20**, Music Building Room 1: Marshall Gilkes Quartet.

Tickets for the performance are available through the UMArts Box Office online at <http://www.griztix.com> or by

phone at 406-243-6880 Monday through Friday. Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors or \$10 for students.

###

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Celebrate Montana Book Festival with UM Event

September 15, 2017

MISSOULA – In celebration of the 2017 Montana Book Festival, Archives and Special Collections at the University of Montana’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library will host an event featuring presentations by faculty members. They will discuss classic literary texts held by Archives and Special Collections and their significance.

The event, “Classic Literary Texts in Archives and Special Collections,” will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, in the Mansfield Library’s Theta Rho Room on the fourth floor. Held in conjunction with the Montana Book Festival, this event is free and open to the public. It includes a special tour of some of the most rare and unique literary volumes inside UM’s archives.

Presenters include Prageeta Sharma, Ashby Kinch, Elizabeth Hubble and Rob Browning.

Sharma is a professor in the MFA program in creative writing, as well as the founder and president of the conference/board Thinking Its Presence: Race, Creative Writing and Literary Studies. Kinch, a professor in the Department of English, specializes in the literature of the medieval period, particularly the late medieval period. Hubble is the director of the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program and an adjunct assistant professor of

women's studies. Browning is an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of English specializing in the study of John Milton, William Shakespeare, early modern British literature, and science fiction.

The event will conclude with an exclusive tour of literary texts held by Archives and Special Collections, including Debra Magpie Earling's limited edition "The Lost Journals of Sacajewea," Richard Hugo's poetry notebooks and a handwritten draft of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem "Human Life's Mysteries." Rare, original volumes of Milton, Geoffrey Chaucer and Walt Whitman also will be displayed.

To request disability-related modifications or for more information about the event, call archives specialist Hannah Soukup at 406-243-2053 or email library.archives@umontana.edu. More information about Archives and Special Collections is available at <http://www.lib.umt.edu/asc/>.

###

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Former USDA, Interior Department Leaders to Speak In Missoula

September 15, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Wildlife Biology program will host former government officials Robert Bonnie and Jim Lyons on Thursday, Sept. 21. They will present “Insights into our nation’s past, present and future wildlife and natural resource conservation challenges” at 1 p.m. in the University Center Theatre. The lecture and discussion are free and open to the public.

Bonnie is the former undersecretary of agriculture for natural resources and environment in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. During his tenure he championed voluntary conservation on some of the West’s most productive ranch operations. Bonnie is now a Rubenstein Fellow at Duke University.

Lyons is the former deputy assistant secretary for land and minerals management in the U.S. Department of the Interior. A veteran of the spotted owl wars in the Pacific Northwest, Lyon most recently was influential in crafting sage-grouse conservation measures on public lands. He is now a lecturer and research scholar in the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Dave Naugle, UM professor of large scale wildlife biology, will facilitate conversation and a Q&A session with

Bonnie and Lyons. Naugle currently serves as science director for the Sage Grouse Initiative, part of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

###

Contact: Chad Bishop, director of wildlife biology program, 406-243-4374, chad.bishop@umontana.edu.



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UM Listed Among Nation's Top 150 Public Universities

September 15, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana ranks among the top 150 public universities in the country, according to U.S. News & World Report.

In U.S. News' "Best Colleges 2018" guidebook, UM tied for 113th place in the top national public universities category, which also ties it as the state's highest-ranked institution in that category. UM also tied for 207th overall in the national universities category, which includes both public and private institutions.

U.S. News released its flagship "Best Colleges" rankings on Sept. 12 after surveying more than 1,600 colleges and universities across the nation. Its methodology focuses on academic excellence, with schools evaluated on hundreds of data points and up to 15 measures of academic quality, with an overall emphasis on student outcomes.

"This ranking validates what we at UM already know – our institution offers our students a world-class education, bolstered by the high caliber of our faculty and staff," said Tom Crady, UM vice president for enrollment and student affairs. "Many prospective students and their parents pay close attention to these rankings, so this strong showing will help them discover what UM has to offer."

UM also was listed at No. 68 among global universities – and No. 1 in Montana – in the environment and ecology category, which includes fields such as environmental health, environmental monitoring and management, and climate change. In 2016, Academic Analytics ranked UM's wildlife biology program as No. 1 in the U.S. and Canada, and in 2009, UM launched the first academic program in the nation focused on climate change studies.

According to the rankings, UM also has the state's top programs in business, plant and animal sciences, and fine arts. Several of the University's graduate-level programs, including online education, law, psychology, pharmacy, physical therapy, social work, and speech and language pathology, also fared well.

To view UM's full listing, visit <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-montana-2536/overall-rankings>. For more information on the 2018 edition of U.S. News' Best Colleges Rankings, visit <http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges>.

Located in the heart of western Montana's stunning natural landscape in Missoula, UM was founded in 1893. The University offers academic excellence and unique educational experiences through the integration of liberal arts, the sciences and professional education, with an array of international and interdisciplinary emphases. For admissions information, visit <http://www.umt.edu/admissions/>.

###

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UM Communication Studies Professor Earns National Award

September 14, 2017

MISSOULA – Betsy Wackernagel Bach, a University of Montana professor of communication studies, recently was named the 2017 recipient of the Donald H. Ecroyd Award for Outstanding Teaching in Higher Education.

Presented by the National Communication Association, the award honors an NCA member who exemplifies superlative teaching in higher education. The association said Bach earned the award in recognition of her outstanding career of excellent communication, teaching and learning.

"I am honored to receive this award and to be named along the most distinguished teachers in my discipline," Bach said. "One of my greatest joys involves teaching and interacting with my students. To be recognized for my efforts is truly gratifying."

Bach, a past NCA president, will receive her award during the group's 103rd annual convention in Dallas Nov 16-19.

NCA is the largest communication association in the United States. The organization serves its scholars, teachers

and practitioners by enabling and supporting their professional interests in research and teaching. To learn more visit <https://www.natcom.org/>. Go to <http://hs.umt.edu/comm/default.php> to learn more about the UM Department of Communication Studies.

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Panel Discussion to Explore Upcoming German Elections

September 14, 2017

MISSOULA – Is German Chancellor Angela Merkel set to lead her party to a fourth federal election win, or will German voters surprise as voters have in recent elections in the U.S. and UK?

Join members of the UM community for a panel discussion to explore the potential outcomes of the upcoming general election in Germany, the country's resistance to populism and Germany's evolving role in Europe and the world. The event will take place from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20, in Davidson Honors College Room 119. It is free and open to the public.

Panelists include Larry Abramson, dean of UM's School of Journalism; Klaus Uhlenbruck, associate dean of UM's School of Business and Administration; Eva-Maria Maggi, visiting assistant professor of political science; Marton Marko, associate professor of German; and Autumn Fraser, UM journalism student.

Contact: Eva-Maria Maggi, assistant professor, UM Department of Political Science, eva.maggi@mso.umt.edu.



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Board of Regents Approves Naming of Eck Hall on UM Campus

September 14, 2017

MISSOULA – Today the Montana University System Board of Regents approved the naming of Dennis and Gretchen Eck Hall, the south wing of the Liberal Arts Building at the University of Montana, in recognition of the couple's \$8.3 million contribution to the building's renovation.

"We thank the regents for their support of this recognition," said UM President Sheila Stearns. "The Ecks' generosity has created an exceptional learning environment in one of the busiest buildings on campus."

Over the past three years, the Ecks have supported classroom renovation, enhanced technology, upgraded infrastructure, a new building entrance and a renovated 120-seat auditorium inside the LA Building. Eck, who studied political history at UM, had a strong interest in helping the University enhance the technology of teaching and learning, and has a special interest in the building in which he studied as a student.

UM's College of Humanities and Sciences fulfills about 80 percent of all general education requirements for the University, making the LA Building and Eck Hall one of the University's most highly trafficked spaces.

###

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UM to Host European Union Ambassador to US Sept. 28

September 14, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will host David O’Sullivan, European Union ambassador to the United States, for “A Conversation with Ambassador David O’Sullivan” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, in the Montana Theatre, located in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

O’Sullivan, who has served as ambassador since 2014, has a long and distinguished career as a negotiator and diplomat. He is a foremost international expert on both modern European politics and U.S.-European relations. At a critical juncture in world history, a conversation with O’Sullivan promises to provide keen insights into the state of the world today.

Missoula resident Michael Punke, vice president of public policy for Amazon.com and author of “The Revenant,” will facilitate the conversation and Q&A session with O’Sullivan. Punke, who served as the U.S. ambassador to the World Trade Organization for several years, is a fellow diplomat and colleague of O’Sullivan’s.

For more information call the UM Office of the President at 406-243-2311.

Contact: UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, .



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UM Grant to Boost Native American STEM Education

September 14, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana has been awarded a two-year \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to launch a pilot project to enhance American Indian participation in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Aaron Thomas is an associate professor of chemistry and director of UM's Native American Research Laboratory. He said the funding will establish the American Indian Traditional Science Experience on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

The AITSE project will generate an innovative approach that uses a diverse set of partners – including after-school, hands-on learning opportunities and long-term programming – to create a transformative learning experience for Native students.

“Native American and Alaska Native students are the least represented minority population in the STEM disciplines,” Thomas said. “Native people offer a unique perspective in these fields that will help bring innovative ideas in a diversified workforce. Our focus is to work with middle school students to help create pathways into

STEM that will continue through high school and then on to higher education.”

He said AITSE will prepare students academically, culturally and socially for higher education before they come to campus. The project also will work to establish more cultural understanding for those in education to help create a more inclusive, welcoming environment for Native students.

The initial pilot is intended to expand to seven reservations across Montana. The project will:

- develop a network of cross-sector partners to collectively impact STEM education in Native populations.
- increase the competency and positively influence the attitude of Native students in math and science, with a preliminary focus on middle school, through experiential and community-based learning that is culturally relevant.
- build community awareness and investment in STEM in Native communities and within Native leadership and governance.

The UM grant award is one of 27 presented nationally as part of the NSF INCLUDES program. (INCLUDES stands for Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Under-represented Discoverers in Engineering and Science.) The program is designed to create paths to STEM fields for underrepresented populations to expand the nation’s leadership and talent pools.

According to NSF, a growing body of scientific research suggests that complex problems are best addressed through collective impact or networked communities focused on finding solutions through common goals and shared resources.

"Broadening participation in STEM is necessary for the United States to retrain its position as the world's preeminent source of scientific innovation," said NSF Director France Córdova. "(NSF) has a long history of working to address difficult challenges by creating the space for inventive solutions. NSF INCLUDES breaks new ground by providing a sustained commitment to collaborative change with the goal of bringing STEM opportunities to more people and communities across the country."

Contact: Aaron Thomas, director, UM Native American Research Laboratory, 406-243-2052, aaron.thomas@mso.umt.edu.

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Filmmaker to Discuss, Screen 'America's Deadliest Battle' Documentary at UM

September 13, 2017

MISSOULA – An independent filmmaker will help set the historical framework for an upcoming exhibition at the University of Montana that explores Montana's role in World War I.

Jo Throckmorton will present "America's Deadliest Battle: An Experiential Film of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive," at 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, as part of UM's 2017-18 President's Lecture Series.

The presentation, which is co-sponsored by the Montana Museum of Art & Culture, will be held in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio-Television Center, adjacent to the MMAC exhibition, "Over There! Montanans and the Great War," curated by UM art history and criticism Professor H. Rafael Chacón. The exhibition, which features more than 200 artifacts and works of art, will be open 30 minutes before and after the presentation.

Ahead of the evening lecture and film, Throckmorton also will lead a seminar titled "Missing, Broken and Forgotten: The Never-Ending Challenges of Filmmaking" from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Since graduating from Wabash College in 1987, Throckmorton has had a distinguished career as a video producer,

director and actor in Bloomington, Indiana. He has won numerous professional awards during the past two decades, including a 2014 nomination for Outstanding Directorial Achievement by the prestigious Directors Guild of America. His credits as a director include feature films and commercial productions.

Throckmorton teaches media and studio production techniques as an adjunct faculty member at Indiana University. He also conducts seminars and classes on video and filmmaking.

From 1995 to 2005, he worked with a production company in Indianapolis as the creative director and eventually as president before setting out on his own. He now runs his own company, Blue Ace Media.

The American Battle Commission chose Throckmorton to direct a documentary film about the Meuse-Argonne Offensive of June 1918, the largest independent American engagement against the Imperial German Army during the First World War. American soldiers suffered an estimated 110,000 casualties during the offensive, more than 2,300 per day.

Fourteen thousand American soldiers are buried in the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery in France. Most of the actors in the film are from the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, known as the "Old Guard." The regiment has served since 1784 and is the U.S. Army's oldest active duty infantry unit.

The American Battle Commission's deputy secretary and historian Rob Dalessandro advised Throckmorton on the film.

The President's Lecture Series at UM consists of seven talks throughout the academic year on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. For more information on the series, visit <http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/> or call UM history Professor Richard Drake at 406-243-2981.

"Over There! Montanans and the Great War," will be on display from Thursday, Sept. 21, to Saturday, Dec. 16. MMAC's gallery hours are from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. The museum is closed Sundays, Mondays and UM holidays, but will open at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, for the presentation. For more information on the exhibition, including other associated events, visit <http://news.umt.edu/2017/09/090517over.aspx>.

###

Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu.

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UM to Celebrate American Indian Heritage Sept. 18-22

September 13, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana plans a five-day celebration to recognize American Indian heritage, Monday through Friday, Sept. 18-22. All events are free and open to the public. Each day has a focused theme.

The schedule is:

Monday, Sept. 18. Theme: STEM

- 7:15 a.m.: Sunrise ceremony, Payne Family Native American Center fire pit.
- Noon-1 p.m.: STEM seminar presented by Associate Professor Aaron Thomas. The UM Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society will lead hands-on science activities following the seminar. PFNAC 201.
- 7 p.m.: City of Missoula Proclamation of American Indian Heritage Day by Mayor John Engen, City Council Chambers.

Tuesday, Sept. 19. Theme: Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- All day: Traditional regalia show, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.: Tours of the PFNAC.
- Noon-1 p.m.: TEK talk hosted by Ruth Swaney, PFNAC 009.
- Noon-4 p.m.: Native Plant and Stewardship and Ethnobotany education table, PFNAC garden.

Wednesday, Sept. 20. Theme: Social Justice, Rock Your Moccs and Wear Your Native Pride

- All day: Traditional regalia show, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- All day: Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women exhibit, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.: Tours of the PFNAC.
- 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Soup Wednesday, co-sponsored by the Native American Law Student Association and the Alexander Blewett III School of Law, PFNAC.
- Noon: Traditional foods demonstration, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- 1-3 p.m.: Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Traveling People's Center, on the Oval in front of the PFNAC.
- 4:30-7 p.m. Film viewing and discussion of "Awake, A Dream from Standing Rock," moderated by UM Professor George Price, PFNAC 105.

Thursday, Sept. 21. Theme: Art and Humanities

- All day: Traditional regalia show, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- All day: Native photographer display, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- 4:30-6:30 p.m.: Star Stories with Destini Vaile, PFNAC Planetarium.
- 6 p.m.: KyiYo community Bingo, PFNAC 103.
- 6-8 p.m.: Native American Hoop Dancer Terrance Littlelent, Lowell Elementary School, 1200 Sherwood St. Hosted by Missoula County Public Schools' Indian Education Department.

Friday, Sept. 22. Theme: Health and Wellness

- 8:30 a.m.: Tipi raising, the Oval outside the PFNAC.
- 9-11 a.m.: SciNation hands-on science learning exhibit, the Oval outside the PFNAC.
- 11:40 a.m.: Native American Studies Welcome by NAS Chair Ted Van Alst, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- Noon: Proclamation of American Indian Heritage Day by UM President Sheila Stearns, PFNAC Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place.
- 12:15 p.m.: Traditional Native games, the Oval outside the PFNAC.
- 5:30 p.m.: Book reading and signing of "Invisible Reality: Storytellers, Storytakers and the Supernatural World of the Blackfeet," by author and UM Associate Professor Rosalyn LaPier, Fact & Fiction, 220 N. Higgins Ave.

For more information or to volunteer, call Michelle Guzman, UM Native American studies adviser, at 406-243-5831 or email michelle.guzman@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Michelle Guzman, adviser, UM Native American Studies Department, 406-243-5381, michelle.guzman@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Broadcast Journalism Classes to Benefit from Greater Montana Foundation Grant

September 13, 2017

MISSOULA – A major supporter of broadcast journalism projects at the University of Montana has once again shown its commitment to students.

The Greater Montana Foundation awarded \$21,500 to the UM School of Journalism to use to support a variety of student-produced radio and television storytelling projects.

The projects funded through the grant include “MontanaPBS Newsbrief,” a statewide, nightly headline report produced and anchored by students; “Business: Made in Montana,” a student-produced MontanaPBS program that profiles companies that create products in Big Sky Country; and the student documentary unit, which produced the 2017 “Montana Rx: Unintended Consequences” about opioid abuse in Montana and “Aging Out,” the 2016 documentary that won the Society of Professional Journalists’ documentary award, among others.

“Greater Montana Foundation has been a terrific partner in ensuring that our students get the hands-on training we are known for at the J-school,” said journalism Dean Larry Abramson. “This continuing support shows they trust us to train the next generation of broadcast journalists.”

UM’s School of Journalism recently ranked as the eighth best college journalism program by the Radio Television Digital News Association. The No. 1 theme cited by voters in the survey was equipping students with real-world experience.

Founded by pioneer broadcaster Ed Craney in 1958, the Greater Montana Foundation provides grants to improve the quality of communications on important issues through electronic media. More information is available at <http://www.greatermontana.org>.

For more information on the journalism school, or how the grant will be put to use at UM, call Abramson at 406-243-5250 or email larry.abramson@mso.umt.edu. The School of Journalism is online at <https://jour.umt.edu/>.

###

Contact: Larry Abramson, UM School of Journalism dean, 406-243-5250, larry.abramson@mso.umt.edu.



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UM's Davidson Honors College Launches Outstanding Student Events in Flathead

September 13, 2017

MISSOULA –

Approximately 40 top students from six Flathead Valley high schools attended the inaugural University of Montana Davidson Honors College Outstanding Students of the Flathead Reception on Sept. 6 at the Bob and Bev Braig Farm in **Whitefish**.

Students from Flathead,



Glacier, Bigfork,
Columbia Falls,
Whitefish and Stillwater
Christian high schools

were invited based on academic and leadership potential, as well as potential fit with the mission, vision and values of the Davidson Honors College. Family, friends, UM Alumni, current Davidson Honors College students and other supporters mingled outside, listened to several short presentations and ate food provided by the MudMan Burger Truck.

“The event was a wonderful opportunity to connect with some of the brightest minds in the state of Montana, and to communicate the academic innovation, student support and exceptionally welcoming community that define the Davidson Honors College as one of the best educational values in the Rocky Mountain West,” said Brock Tessman, dean of the Davidson Honors College. “As we look to build our best incoming class to date, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet so many outstanding students, parents and friends in such a beautiful setting.”

The Sept. 6 event was the first event in a series of Outstanding Student events. The Davidson Honors College plans to host similar events on Oct. 7 in **Hamilton** and will make a visit to Billings in the spring.

Tessman said he plans to make the reception an annual event in Whitefish and already is learning about students who are good candidates for an invitation to next year's reception.

For more information on the Hamilton event, call Tessman at 406-243-2541 or email brock.tessman@umontana.edu.

Contact: Brock Tessman, UM Davidson Honors College dean, 406-243-2541, brock.tessman@umontana.edu.



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UM's Fall Feastival to Provide a Taste of Montana's Food Cycle

September 12, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will provide students, faculty and staff with a chance to savor Montana's harvest during UM Dining's annual Kyra Jean Williams Farm to College Fall Feastival from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in the **Lommasson Center Food Zoo and Corner Store**. (Note: The location was moved from the Oval due to forecasted rain.)

The feast offers a taste of the UM Farm to College Program, which is dedicated to providing local food to the campus community, as well as a holistic view of Montana's agricultural food cycle. Montana farmers, ranchers and food producers will supply the menu items.

"Our goal is to celebrate the success of the UM Farm to College Program and to raise public and student awareness about the time and effort required to produce the foods we eat each day," said Camp Howard, director of UM Dining.

To sustainably complete the food cycle, all pre- and post-consumer waste generated by this event – including food, plates and napkins – will be pulped and processed into soil-enhancing material within 48 hours. The soil-ready

material provides the starting point for the next growing cycle.

UM Dining renamed the Farm to College Fall Feastival four years ago to honor Kyra Jean Williams, who passed away in an auto accident in August 2013. Williams began work with UM Dining in 2008 as an AmeriCorps Vista volunteer after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. As the UM Farm to College Program's coordinator, Williams planned and implemented the first Fall Feastival. The Feastival was so successful that it became an annual celebration.

UM Dining is a national pioneer in advocating for the benefits of buying and eating local, sustainable foods. The UM Farm to College Program celebrated its 14th anniversary this spring.

The Feastival is open to the public. For more information and event pricing, visit <http://www.umt.edu/dining>.

###

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UM Receives Top Rankings for Service to Students with Autism

September 12, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana recently received a top spot on two national lists for its service to students on the autism spectrum.

Best Value Schools ranked UM No. 7 out of all four-year public and private colleges and universities in the U.S. based on its resources offered in five categories: social, academic, functioning, employment and residential. The study mentioned UM's MOSSAIC (Mentoring, Organization and Social Support for Autism Inclusion on Campus) program as essential to improving members' skills through evidence-based practices.

The MOSSAIC program, started in 2012 in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, includes three other campuses throughout the Northwest and provides support for people with autism and related disorders.

"Our MOSSAIC program not only helps students with autism on campus, it also benefits our 'neuro-typical' peer mentors by encouraging life-enriching friendships between students with and without autism spectrum disorders," said Dana Fitz Gale, a program coordinator.

With a score of 114 out of 200, UM also made No. 20 on Online College Plan's ranking of colleges with programs for people with autism. This study highlighted MOSSAIC's focus on direct speech language therapy, peer mentoring, social evenings, EdReady program support and academic support.

"For a small program, MOSSAIC has significant commitment from faculty and students," said program developer Jennifer Schoffer Closson. "Beyond MOSSAIC's contributions, these rankings highlight that UM is a campus of acceptance, diversity and innovation."

Fitz Gale and Schoffer Closson have presented at state and national conferences, including diversity presentations and training for academic advisers, on the MOSSAIC program and the role of neurodiversity within communities.

For more information on UM's MOSSAIC program, visit

<https://coehs.umt.edu/departments/csd/dewit-ritecare-clinic/mossaic.php>.

###

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UM Professor Earns National Excellence in Fisheries Education Award

September 11, 2017

MISSOULA – The American Fisheries Society recently recognized a University of Montana professor with one of its top national awards.

UM wildlife biology Professor Lisa Eby was awarded the society's Excellence in Fisheries Education Award at the American Fisheries Society's annual meeting this summer.

"I am very honored to receive this award by our national professional organization," Eby said. "The excellent undergraduate and graduate students at UM make my job fun and rewarding."

Eby, who serves as the faculty adviser to the student chapter of the American Fisheries Society



at UM, is a core educator in the fisheries and aquatic ecology tracks of study in UM's wildlife biology and ecosystem science and restoration degrees. She has instructed more than 400

undergraduates and guided dozens of students in aquatic-focused graduate programs across the nation during her 15 years at UM.

"This prestigious award couldn't have gone to a more dedicated and engaged educator in the fisheries sciences," said Tom DeLuca, dean of the W.A. College of Forestry and Conservation. "Lisa is an absolutely outstanding instructor, mentor and adviser. I am really happy to see her get this award."

Her research covers a range of topics in aquatic ecology and fish biology. In 2014 she and a team of scientists discovered a new species of sculpin fish in the Columbia River Basin.

"My wonderful university colleagues and broader professional community of aquatic and fisheries biologists that regularly engage with our students create a first-rate educational experience here at UM," Eby said.

Eby has earned UM's Outstanding Faculty Advising Award in undergraduate advising and the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Educator of the Year Award.

The American Fisheries Society is the world's largest and oldest professional organization for the fisheries profession and fisheries science.

###

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UM's Constitution Day Lecture to Focus on Transgender Equality, Dignity

September 11, 2017

MISSOULA – In celebration of Constitution Day, the University of Montana will host a lecture by the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Montana on transgender equality and dignity.

"Transgender Equality and the Constitutional Right to Dignity," delivered by Caitlin Borgmann, will take place at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, in UM's Alexander Blewett III School of Law Room 101. The lecture is free and open to the public and sponsored annually by the Office of the Provost and the School of Law to commemorate the U.S. Constitution's signing on Sept. 17, 1787.

Borgmann leads the legal, policy, communications, fundraising and administrative operations and programs of the ACLU of Montana. Previously a law professor at the City University of New York School of Law and a senior fellow at the Columbia University Center for Gender and Sexuality Law, she also served as the state strategies coordinator at the ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project for six years.

Borgmann focuses on protecting constitutional rights in the courts and legislatures, especially reproductive rights. She has worked as executive editor of the New York University Law Review, clerked for federal judge Robert P.

Patterson Jr. and spent four years as a litigator. With extensive experience in nonprofit governance, she has served on the boards of the National ACLU, the ACLU of New Jersey and the National Abortion Federation.

Established 40 years ago, the ACLU of Montana works in courts, legislatures and communities to defend, advance and preserve the individual rights and civil liberties for all Montanans granted by the U.S. Constitution. For more information visit <https://www.aclumontana.org/en>.

For information on the Constitution Day event, visit the website at <https://www.umt.edu/provost/events/constitution/default.php>.

###

Contact: Kali Taylor, UM Office of the Provost, 406-243-2538, kali.taylor@mso.umt.edu.



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Billings High School Students, Parents Invited to Montana College Fair Sept. 19

September 11, 2017

MISSOULA – The Montana Post Secondary Educational Opportunities Council bring its college fair tour to **Billings** on Tuesday, Sept. 19. High school seniors and juniors are invited to attend the fairs with their classmates, families and guidance counselors.

The college fairs give students an opportunity to contemplate their options after high school. Students can visit with representatives from in-state and out-of-state colleges and universities, technical and trade schools, and branches of the military.

The Billings event will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, in the gymnasium of Montana State University-Billings.

“College fairs allow students to see exactly what is out there and fuels excitement about finding the best fit for them,” said Amy Leary, MPSEOC executive director. “These statewide fairs also help emphasize the quality and variety of colleges and universities available in Montana. With 25 accredited higher education institutions in our state, students are bound to find something that works for them.”

Although the fairs are geared toward high school students, anyone interested in pursuing post-secondary education is welcome to attend. Parents and the public are encouraged to attend.

Juniors and seniors who attend the fairs are eligible to sign up for the College Ca\$h Program, which awards thousands of scholarship dollars to students across the state. Scholarships are awarded by a random drawing of students who submit their names during the college fairs. The College Ca\$h Program is made possible by the donations from the following sponsors and partners: Montana University System – Student Financial Services, GEAR UP, Student Assistance Foundation, the Bank of North Dakota and MPSEOC.

###

Contact: Amy Leary, executive director, Montana Post Secondary Educational Opportunities Council, 406-531-3531, Amy.Leary@MontanaColleges.com.



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UM Rural Institute to Raise Awareness of Falls Prevention on Sept. 22

September 11, 2017

MISSOULA – Most falls are preventable, so on Friday, Sept. 22 – the first day of fall – the University of Montana’s Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities will commemorate the 10th annual Falls Prevention Awareness Day. In honor of this notable milestone, the theme for this year’s event will be “10 Years Standing Together to Prevent Falls.”

The Rural Institute, which facilitates the Montana chapter of the National Council on Aging’s Falls Free initiative, will support several events across the state to help educate older adults and their caregivers about effective fall prevention strategies. Additionally, Montana Gov. Steve Bullock has officially recognized the day as Falls Prevention Awareness Day in the state and said he encourages Montanans to do the same.

The Montana chapter of the Falls Free initiative will sponsor fall-risk screening events across the state, including the following events in Missoula:

- **Missoula Senior Center, 705 S. Higgins Ave.:** UM IPHARM, physical therapy and Rural Institute researchers will provide free fall-risk screenings, bone density tests and education from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22.

For more information, call Mindy Renfro at 406-243-2203.

- **Community Medical Center, 2827 Fort Missoula Road, Building 4:** Staff will provide fall-risk screenings provided from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22. Email Mary Thane at mthane@communitymed.org for more information.
- **Missoula Family YMCA, 3000 S. Russell St., second floor:** Patrick Hospital staff will provide screenings from 9 a.m. to noon. Friday, Sept. 22. Email Diane Morgan at dianne.morgan@providence.org for more information.
- **Element Physical Therapy, 2001 S. Russell St.:** Physical therapy staff will offer fall-risk screenings from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22. For more information email Amy Downing at amy@elementpt.com.
- **Alpine Physical Therapy, 150 E. Spruce St.:** Fall screenings will be offered during senior fitness classes. For more information on classes, email Brace Hayden at bracehayden@gmail.com.

NCOA and its Falls Free Coalition encourage supporters to wear a yellow ribbon to increase awareness of falls prevention.

For more information on the Montana events, call Renfro, UM Rural Institute principal investigator, at 406-243-2203 or email mindy.renfro@umontana.edu.

For falls prevention resources, visit <http://www.ncoa.org/FallsPrevention>.

###

Contact: Mindy Renfro, principal investigator, UM Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, 406-243-2203, mindy.renfro@umontana.edu.

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UM's Mansfield Center Launches Fall 2017 Lecture Series

September 08, 2017

MISSOULA – The Mansfield Center at the University of Montana will host the Fall 2017 Brown Bag Lecture Series for the community. The lectures reflect the center's mission to promote an understanding of Asia, public affairs and ethics. Topics of this semester's series include climate change, regional development in Southeast Asia, and rising tensions in China.

All sessions will be held from noon to 12:50 p.m. The lectures are free and open to the public. The schedule follows:

- **Thursday, Sept. 14, University Center Room 332:** "The Future of Collaboration and Climate Change: Regional Perspectives at ASEAN's 50th Anniversary," Asian Fellows in the YSEALI on Global Environmental Issues. A special offering of the U.S. Department of State.
- **Thursday, Sept. 28, UC Room 330:** "Plan to JET to Japan! Teaching English in Japan," Chelsea Robinson,

JET program coordinator, Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle.

- **Thursday, Oct. 5, UC Room 327:** "Managing Natural Resources in a Changing Climate in the Mekong Delta," Dan Spencer, UM professor of environmental studies, and Truong Quoc Hung, deputy director general, Office of the Institute for Legislative Studies under the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of Vietnam.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 25, UC Room 332:** "Contemporary Issues in Southeast Asia: Young Leaders Tackling Education, Human Rights, the Arts, and Conservation," Southeast Asian Fellows in the YSEALI Professional Fellows Program. A special offering of the U.S. Department of State.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 8, UC Alumni Boardroom:** "Chronicling Climate Change: An Environmental Journalist in Indonesia," Matthew Frank, Fellow in Regional Journalism, O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 29, UC Room 332:** "Perfecting the Surveillance State: New Developments in Xinjiang, China's Muslim Borderland," Eric Schluessel, director of East Asian Studies at UM.

More information about the lecture series is available at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield> .

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Contact: Caitlin Sager, program coordinator, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2965, caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.

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Internationally Acclaimed Sculptors to Lecture at UM

September 07, 2017

MISSOULA – The School of Art will present two distinguished lectures by internationally acclaimed artists from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the University of Montana.

Patrick Dougherty and Kevin O'Dwyer, who are both currently involved with the Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild park in **Lincoln**, will present back-to-back lectures from 6 to 8 p.m. in the University Center Theater. Their lectures are presented in



conjunction with Dougherty's
three-week artist in residence at

Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild.

During his residency, Dougherty and his band of volunteers will twist, weave and entangle more than 10 tons of willow saplings to create a monumental sculpture for Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild. During a career spanning more than three decades, Dougherty has created over 300 large-scale temporary sculptures worldwide. Since creating his first sapling structures in 1982, he has traveled throughout the world to create large-scale temporary installations for museums, sculpture parks, botanical gardens, private residences and art festivals. His environmental sculptures have been seen climbing the sides of buildings, finding shelter among a row of trees and winding up the banisters of museum foyers. Traveling to new sites, meeting the local community and creating a unique work of art inspired by the natural and manmade environment of the area are important aspects of his artistic practice.

"My impulsive style of building values the free-wheeling method of construction over plans and architectural models, and all the work must fit into a three-week building process," Dougherty said. "With the 10 tons of willow saplings, the line between trash and treasure is very thin, and the saplings littering the ground during the building phase may appear to be cluttered piles of yard waste. Passersby often look the other way.

"Ultimately, however, these sticks are also lines with which to draw, and my assistants and I, using the body like a pencil, add lines again and again to the surface of the sculpture. And, as unlikely as it seems, many of the drawing conventions that we all used in school to draw interesting pictures are the same techniques I employ to build the drawn surfaces of my oversized sculptures. As the form materializes day after day, those who see it become more convinced, until opening day, when the work is complete in its intentions."

More information about Dougherty and his work is available at <http://www.stickwork.net/>.

Irish artist O'Dwyer, also an internationally acclaimed sculptor and metalsmith, serves as the artistic director/curator of Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild. His artwork reflects his strong interest in ancient landscapes, industrial archaeology and architecture. His symposia installations respond to the industrial and environmental heritage of the landscape, and industrial artifacts, historical references, folklore and archival interviews are the building blocks in

the development of his installations. O'Dwyer is represented at the Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild park by the 22-foot-high steel sculpture "Montana Line Drawing." He is also responsible for proposing the move of the iconic Delaney Sawmill TeePee Burner to the park as a means of preserving one of the remaining Lincoln-area landmarks that celebrates the rich cultural heritage of the once-thriving timber industry. LED lighting is installed at the top of the TeePee Burner to assimilate the orange glow of burning wood. The interior space – 45 feet in diameter – provides a space for temporary exhibitions, education and performance opportunities.

O'Dwyer has been the artistic director/curator of the sculpture park since 2013. He previously served as artistic director/curator of Sculpture in the Parklands in Ireland, and worked on numerous other consultant/manager arts and cultural heritage projects. He will speak about his work as well as Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild park.

For more information on Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild and upcoming events, visit <http://www.sculptureinthewild.com/program-events.html>, call O'Dwyer at 520-471-9770 or email kodwyerdesign@gmail.com. For more information on the UM lectures, call the School of Art at 406-243-2813 or email Cathryn Mallory at cathryn.mallory@umontana.edu.

Contact: Cathryn Mallory, professor, UM School of Art, 406-243-2813, cathryn.mallory@umontana.edu.



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Montana College Fair to Visit High Schools Across the State

September 07, 2017

MISSOULA – The Montana Post Secondary Educational Opportunities Council will host three weeks of college fairs throughout Montana during September. As many as 11,000 high school seniors and juniors will attend the fairs with their classmates, families and guidance counselors.

The college fairs give students an opportunity to contemplate their options after high school. Students can visit with representatives from in-state and out-of-state colleges and universities, technical and trade schools, and branches of the military.

A schedule of the college fairs follows. All events will be held in the school gymnasium, unless otherwise noted.

Eastern Region:

- **12:30-2:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 11:** Montana State University-Northern, Havre.
- **9-10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 12:** Glasgow High School.
- **9-10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 13:** Sidney High School.

- **1-2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 13:** Dawson Community College, Glendive.
- **8-9:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 14:** Miles Community College, Miles City.
- **1-2:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 14:** Colstrip High School.

Central Region:

- **9:15-10:45 a.m., Monday, Sept. 18:** Strand Union Ballrooms, Montana State University, Bozeman.
- **1:30-3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18:** Park Senior High School, Livingston.
- **8:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19:** Montana State University-Billings.
- **8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20:** Fergus County High School, Lewistown.
- **1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20:** McLaughlin Center, University of Providence, Great Falls.
- **9-10:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 21:** Cut Bank High School.

Western Region:

- **9-11 a.m., Monday, Sept. 25:** Montana Tech, Butte.
- **1:30-3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25:** Carroll College, Helena.
- **8:45-11:15 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 26:** University Center Ballroom, University of Montana, Missoula.
- **1:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 26:** Hamilton High School.
- **10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 27:** Polson High School.
- **8:15-11:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 28:** Flathead High School, Kalispell.

“College fairs allow students to see exactly what is out there and fuels excitement about finding the best fit for them,” said Amy Leary, MPSEOC executive director. “These statewide fairs also help emphasize the quality and variety of colleges and universities available in Montana. With 25 accredited higher education institutions in our state, students are bound to find something that works for them.”

Although the fairs are geared toward high school students, anyone who is interested in pursuing post-secondary education is welcome to attend. Parents and the public are encouraged to attend.

Juniors and seniors who attend the fairs are eligible to sign up for the College Ca\$h Program, which awards thousands of scholarship dollars to students across the state. Scholarships are awarded by a random drawing of students who submit their names during the college fairs. The College Ca\$h Program is made possible by the donations from the following sponsors and partners: Montana University System – Student Financial Services, GEAR UP, Student Assistance Foundation, the Bank of North Dakota and MPSEOC.

Contact: Amy Leary, executive director, Montana Post Secondary Educational Opportunities Council, 406-531-3531, Amy.Leary@MontanaColleges.com.

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UM Faculty Member to Help Implement Inclusive Education in Kenya

September 07, 2017

MISSOULA – A University of Montana faculty member was selected as one of four U.S. experts to support the development of international disability-related projects this fall.

Through the Americans with Disabilities Act International Fellowship Program, Martin Blair, executive director of the Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities at UM, will travel to Kenya to help implement early intervention to young children with multisensory impairments.

The project enables nearly a third of all deaf-blind children under age 3 in Kisumu County, Kenya, to be enrolled in special programs of their family's choice for the first time.

"These children are usually kept at home until age 8 or 9. I look forward to helping develop a system that serves them when they are infants.



The earlier we intervene with these children, the better their education and employment outcomes will be,” Blair said. “It is very rewarding to give hope to families and children who often remain hidden their communities.”

Blair will spend two weeks in Kenya providing technical assistance to government officials and representatives of community-based organizations as they implement the project. The fellowship is supported by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

For more information on the international fellowship, call Blair at 406-243-4779 or email martin.blair@umontana.edu.

Contact: Martin Blair, executive director, Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities at UM, 406-243-4779, martin.blair@umontana.edu.



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Montana Research Group Harvests Stellar Eclipse Data

September 07, 2017



MISSOULA – When the nation paused Aug. 21 to observe the spectacle of a total solar eclipse turning day to night across the middle of the country, research teams from Montana were busy gathering some of the best data resulting from the event.

Based at the University of Montana, Jennifer Fowler is assistant director of the Montana Space Grant Consortium, a NASA-funded organization intended to boost aerospace research and education. Fowler said her organization took three teams to the “path of totality” in Wyoming, where they launched 24 research balloons to study the eclipse.

“We gathered the highest spatial and temporal resolution of atmospheric data at our site compared to other research teams in the path of totality,” Fowler said. “We did some great science, and there may be breakthroughs and papers resulting from that data we gathered that day. Stay tuned.”

She said their 40-person research team divided into three groups to study the eclipse in north, central and south Wyoming. The groups were located in or near the towns of Lusk, Fort Laramie and Veteran.

“These locations were chosen to give the proper spatial resolution for our data,” Fowler said. “The goal was to be as close to the north and south edges of the eclipse path, and the central site was as close to the central line as possible.”

The groups arrived at their respective sites Aug. 18 to begin site surveys and system tests. Balloon data collecting was done Aug. 20-22.

The work included 19 radiosonde balloon launches. Also used by the National Weather Service, radiosondes are small instruments flown to gather temperature, relative humidity and GPS measurements. Using GPS, the sensors infer pressure, wind speed and wind direction.

“These measurements will be used for a wide variety of projects, both current and future,” Fowler said. “The temporal resolution of our launches is unmatched for this eclipse.”

She said they started launching balloons from the central site in six-hour increments 24 hours before the eclipse. Then all sites launched four balloons from “first contact” of the eclipse to shortly after the moment of totality on Aug. 21. The final launch was on Aug. 22 to complete the baseline dataset.

Besides 19 radiosonde launches, there were five launches of larger balloons. Those balloons went up just prior to totality with payloads that included cameras, ultraviolet sensors, temperature sensors and tracking equipment.

“All systems received valid data, and there are multiple videos from launch through totality that include the path of the moons shadow as it passes across the Earth’s surface,” Fowler said.

She said large balloons were filled in a farm equipment hangar, and the team struggled with winds gusting to 15 mph on the ground near Fort Laramie.

“The team crawled each of the balloons out and fought gusty winds while walking them to the nearby field, holding them as low as possible before launch,” Fowler said. “It was quite the adventure.”

Much of the research team was composed of college students and volunteers from UM, Flathead Valley Community College, Miles Community College and Montana State University. Other notables included Eric Hardwick a Sentinel High School (Missoula) student volunteer and Joe Youngberg, a Murdock Trust Partner in Science grant recipient and teacher from Frenchtown High School.

“This was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had, because we got to see many different pieces and years of problem solving come together flawlessly to make a novel system work,” said Frederick Bunt, a UM graduate student.

Perhaps the most interesting volunteers were Rebecca and Kimberly Yeung, two elementary-age Seattle sisters who have [launched their own near-space balloons](#) in the past.

“It’s gratifying that these teams led by researchers from UM were able to use this incredible eclipse opportunity to lead in several important science initiatives,” said Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship. “I know our students learned a lot, and I look forward to the results gleaned from the data they gathered, which I believe will lead to important scientific discoveries.”

Contact: Jennifer Fowler, assistant director, Montana Space Grant Consortium, 406-396-8085, jennifer.fowler@umontana.edu.

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Partnership Makes Digitized Collections More Accessible

September 07, 2017

MISSOULA – Collections of some of Montana’s most unique historical books, photographs, letters and more will now be widely available online, thanks to a new partnership between the state’s universities and cultural heritage institutions.

In June 2017, the University of Montana, Montana State University, the Montana State Library and the Montana Historical Society partnered to form the Big Sky Country Digital Network, an online hub of digitized library and museum collections.

In addition to providing a way to search multiple collections of historical items from across the state, the network indexes information about those collections and submits it to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), a nonprofit group that aggregates digital collections from America’s libraries, archives, museums and cultural heritage institutions.

“This is a significant partnership with other Montana educational and cultural heritage institutions to promote the Mansfield Library’s extensive digital collections,” said Beverly Edmond, UM interim provost and vice president for

academic affairs. "Through this online hub, the valuable digital collections will be easily accessible to our faculty, students and other audiences worldwide. I applaud the Mansfield Library's leadership on this initiative."

DPLA works with regional and state hubs such as the Big Sky Country Digital Network to organize metadata for the items in the hubs' collections – information about information. DPLA also supports developing local knowledge of linked open data, data quality and standards, copyright and licensing, and other topics.

Digital collections from Montana, which include newspapers, photographs, books, maps, diaries, letters and other artifacts, will now be exhibited online alongside nationwide resources on the DPLA platform.

"We are thrilled with this statewide partnership network which takes our valuable and unique digital collections to DPLA, a national online platform," said Shali Zhang, dean of libraries at UM. "Several digital collections, such as Mansfield's Speeches and Interviews, Boone and Crockett Club Records, Bud Moore Photographs and Sound Recordings, Fort Missoula Alien Detention Camp Collection, The Natives of Montana Archival Project and others, have been heavily used. Joining the efforts with other Montana partners makes these digital collections easily accessible to all Montanans and worldwide audience."

Among the thousands of new resources the Big Sky Country Digital Network makes available are:

- **Mansfield's Speeches and Interviews at UM** – Mike Mansfield represented Montana in the U.S. House (1942-52), Senate (1952-77) and was U.S. Ambassador to Japan (1977-1988). This digital collection from UM spans Mansfield's career as a candidate, legislator and ambassador, and highlights his legacy of leadership in public service through his speeches and interviews drawn from the extensive Mansfield Papers housed in UM's Mansfield Library.
- **The Ivan Doig Archive at MSU** – A digital collection of the famed author's notes, manuscripts, letters, photographs and more. The documents were entrusted to MSU by Doig's widow, Carol, in September 2015, following Doig's death earlier that year. Doig, a Montana native, was known for his writing, primarily set in Big Sky Country, which celebrates the landscape and people of the postwar West.
- **Glacier National Park Historical Photographs** – These images from the Montana Historical Society's Research Center capture the landscape and people who worked and played in the park in its early years. Work by notable photographers such as George Grant, Fred Kiser and T.J. Jileman appear in this collection.
- **Civil War Era Diaries and Correspondence Collection** – The historical society's collection of diaries and letters share the experience of new arrivals to Montana Territory during the waning years of the Civil War.

Visit the Big Sky Country Digital Network online at <https://bscdn.org> and the Digital Public Library of America at <https://dp.la>.

Contact: Shali Zhang, UM libraries dean, 406-243-6800, shali.zhang@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Journalism Students Win 2017 Regional Awards of Excellence

September 06, 2017

MISSOULA – Several students from the University of Montana’s School of Journalism received Northwest Regional College Student Awards of Excellence from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences at the 54th annual Emmy awards ceremony held June 3 in Seattle.

Reporter Braly Whisler from Burien, Washington, and photographer Colter Lairy from Missoula won awards in the sports category for “Athletes and Concussions.”

Producer Keiko Sagami from Bigfork and chief writer Dominique Giusti from Novato, California, received the Award of Excellence for the 2016 television documentary “Aging Out: Autism in Montana.” The documentary team also won the award in the long-form nonfiction category. The project documents four families with children who are on the autism spectrum and reports on the lack of services available for young adults with autism in Montana.

Other journalism students involved in the autism project were: Director Peter Riley; Director of Photography Andy Anderson; Chief of Research Sean Robb; Reporters David Detrick, Katie Durkin, Katie Riordan, Jana Wiegand, Sarah Yovetich, Sojin Josephson; and Photographers Carrie Miller, Joe Hodgson, Joe Lesar and Nick Chrestenson.

Caryn Foehringer from Kingsport, Tennessee, won an award in the public affairs/community service category for her reporting in “Feeding the Community,” a feature on the work done by the Missoula Food Bank.

“Coaster Pedicabs,” produced by Tiffany Folkes from Preston, Washington, and Mederios Whitworth-Babb from Butte, earned the Award of Excellence for the single camera-only category in the video essay section. Their profile of the pedicab business in Missoula was produced as part of the “Business: Made in Montana” program produced by juniors in the television journalism track each semester and aired on MontanaPBS.

“Hands-On Science,” reported by Jack Ginsburg and photographed by Grant Herzog, and “Keeping it Local,” reported and photographed by Foehringer, also were nominated for awards in the general news assignment-light category.

The awards recognize excellence in television news, documentary, entertainment and individual achievement. The northwest region includes Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

“Students from the University of Montana School of Journalism have earned a reputation for excellence in television news, features and documentary among the members of the Academy,” said Denise Dowling, a UM associate professor of journalism. “It is an honor to have our student work recognized and for our students to know they are among the very best in the country.”

More information on the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences-Northwest Chapter is online at <http://www.natasnw.org/>.

Established in 1914, the UM School of Journalism has trained generations of journalists in print, broadcast, photography and digital media. The school regularly ranks among the top 10 journalism schools in the United States. Learn more at <https://jour.umont.edu/>.

###

Contact: Denise Dowling, associate professor, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@mso.umont.edu.

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Four Finalists for UM Presidency to Visit Campus

September 06, 2017

MISSOULA – The search for the University of Montana’s next president has narrowed to four finalists who will visit the campus later this month.

“The search committee is excited to bring these finalists to campus,” said Clay Christian, Montana commissioner of higher education and chair of the search committee. “We have a very talented group of distinguished professionals advancing to the next phase of the process.”

Mirta M. Martin serves as senior education adviser to former Mexican President Vicente Fox and is a Senior Fellow for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Previously, Martin served as president of Fort Hays State University in Kansas. She has over 30 years of experience in higher education, banking, advising and consulting.

Martin holds a baccalaureate in psychology and political science from Duke University, a master of business administration from the University of Richmond and a doctorate with an emphasis in strategic management and leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Martin will visit campus for interviews Sept. 18-19, with a public forum at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, at in the University Center Theater, followed by a community reception at 5:15 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

Andrew "Andy" Hale Feinstein is the provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at San José State University, one of the largest public comprehensive universities in the western United States and the top supplier of graduates to Silicon Valley.

As SJSU's chief academic officer, Feinstein oversees 154 degree programs and supports more than 35,000 students, 1,900 faculty and 550 staff members and administrators in seven academic colleges.

Previous to SJSU, Feinstein served as a professor, department chair, associate dean, dean and presidential adviser. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in hotel administration from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and his Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University, where he studied man/environment relations and was an Academic Computing Fellow.

Feinstein will visit campus for interviews Sept. 20-21, with a public forum at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20, in the UC Theater, followed by a community reception at 5:15 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

Seth Bodnar is a senior executive at General Electric Co., where he is responsible for long-term strategy and business transformation at GE Transportation, a global company with over 10,000 employees and approximately \$5 billion in revenue. He served as an assistant professor in the Department of Social Sciences at West Point, where he taught economics.

Prior to his time on faculty at West Point, Bodnar had a distinguished military career, serving in the 101st Airborne Division and the U.S. Army's 1st Special Forces Group. A West Point graduate, Bodnar received both the Rhodes and Truman scholarships and earned two master's degrees from the University of Oxford.

Bodnar will visit campus for interviews Sept. 21-22, with a public forum at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22, in the UC Theater, followed by a community reception at 5:15 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

Charles "Chuck" M. Ambrose has been president of the University of Central Missouri since 2010. A career educator, Ambrose also served 12 years as president of Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, N.C., where he was recruited at age 36, making him the youngest serving president of a college or university in North Carolina in 1998.

In addition to his presidencies at Pfeiffer and UCM, Ambrose served as vice president for advancement at Carson-Newman College, assistant to the chancellor for university advancement at Western Carolina University, and executive assistant to the president at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. He now serves as chairman of the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri.

Ambrose will visit the campus for interviews Sept. 25-26, with a public forum at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, in the UC Theater, followed by a community reception at 5:15 p.m. in UC Rooms 331/332/333.

Complete biographies and resumes/CVs for each finalist can be viewed on UM's presidential search website at <http://www.umt.edu/president>. Click on "Presidential Search" at the top of the page.

Students, University employees and members of the Missoula community are encouraged to attend forums and receptions for each candidate. The Board of Regents and the commissioner of higher education view this public participation opportunity as an important part of the recruitment process. The board is expected to make a final decision on the presidential selection later this fall.

###

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'Back to Business' Event Emphasizes Student Involvement, Local Partnerships

September 06, 2017

MISSOULA – A new event at the University of Montana School of Business Administration highlights the importance of student involvement and partnerships with local businesses. The “Back to Business Barbecue” will bring together business students, faculty and staff for free food, live music and networking in the courtyard of Gallagher Business Building.

The barbecue will take place at noon Thursday, Sept. 7, in the Gallagher courtyard. UM employees and students – business majors, as well as business minors and students considering pursuing a business degree – are invited to attend.

“This event is part of our effort to make opportunities for students to engage with each other, as well as faculty and staff – to help students feel really connected to the supportive community we’ve built here,” said business school Dean Christopher Shook.

The event is sponsored by ROAM Student Living, the new housing community on Front Street in downtown Missoula set to begin occupancy in spring 2018. UM business school alumnus Jim McLeod is co-founder of Farran

Realty Partners, a lead developer of ROAM.

The school's new stock ticker, provided by financial services company D.A. Davidson, also will be unveiled at the barbecue. The electronic sign streams stock updates and customized messages into the Gallagher Business Building lobby. Frank D'Angelo, a senior vice president, financial adviser and branch manager with D.A. Davidson, is a UM School of Business alumnus and will speak at the event.

"Partnerships with local businesses, especially ones like these with representation from our alumni, benefit everyone, especially our students," Shook said. "We are so grateful to these companies for their support."

For information about the event, call 406-243-4831 or email officeofthedean@mso.umt.edu.

###

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Library to Host Panel Discussion on Removal of Monuments

September 06, 2017

MISSOULA – More Confederate monuments are removed from public spaces every day. What is the history behind these monuments and how should they be interpreted? How was one erected in Montana 50 years after the Civil War ended? Why does it matter?

The Mansfield Library at the University of Montana will host a panel discussion on this important and timely topic from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, in the East Faculty Office Area on the Main Level of the Mansfield Library. The event is free and open to the public.

The panel will be moderated by Jaci Wilkinson of the Mansfield Library and panelists will include African-American studies Associate Professor Tobin Shearer, history Professor Anya Jabour, parks, recreation and tourism Assistant Professor Jennifer Thomsen and Native American studies Professor George Price.

To request disability-related modifications, call the Mansfield Library at 406-243-6800 or email library.admin@umontana.edu.

###

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UM Hosts Federal Partners for Climate Workshop

September 06, 2017

MISSOULA – The Montana Climate Office and the National Weather Service offices in Montana are hosting for a climate minisummit Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 6-7, at the University of Montana.

The event is for various federal agencies that provide climate information and services for Montana. While the minisummit is by invitation only, the Montana Climate Office invites members of the public to visit <http://climate.umt.edu/summit/default.php> for updates and outcomes.

Montana sits at the nexus of two of America's great river basins – the Columbia and the Missouri – which often results in services being split between these two geographic regions. The group will discuss how they can collaborate on the state's quarterly climate outlook, regional climate assessments, interagency coordination and share data gathering, among other topics.

"We want to bring together all these important federal climate service providers to discuss how we can all work together to give Montanans the best and most reliable climate information they can get," said Kelsey Jencso, state climatologist. "We're excited to host all these partners here in Missoula."

Federal agency participants include the National Weather Service offices, the National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Integrated Drought Information System, Missouri River Basin Forecast Center, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, USGS Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center, Northwest Climate Science Center, the Natural Resource Conservation Service and many others. State and tribal representatives will provide a local perspective on the need for climate information and services.

The Montana Climate Office, part of the Montana Forest & Conservation Experiment Station at UM, provides Montanans with high quality, timely, relevant and scientifically based climate information and services. It has worked with more than 130 statewide partners in the past three years.

###

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Wildlife Research: Alaska Brown Bears Choose Berries Over Salmon

September 05, 2017

MISSOULA – In 2014, University of Montana doctoral candidate Will Deacy left Missoula for Alaska’s Kodiak Island. As in years past, he was studying how bears in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge “surf the red salmon wave” – moving from stream to stream filling their bellies as salmon runs come in.



Although bears had started eating salmon as expected, he arrived

at the peak of the spawning run to find the streams full of salmon, but with no bears in sight. The scene repeated itself the next year.

Deacy, now a postdoctoral researcher at Oregon State University, wanted to know why. Under the mentorship of then-director of UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station, Jack Stanford, and together with biologists from Oregon State University and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, they found that the brown bears had abandoned the spawning salmon because climate warming had caused another bear food, red elderberries, to ripen earlier than usual.

Their findings recently were published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The study, with Deacy as the lead author, reports that the bears are more interested in chowing down on early-arriving red elderberries. The likely result of this "prey switch," the researchers conclude, is a disrupted ecosystem on Alaska's Kodiak Island.

"Prior to that summer, we found streams that were littered with thousands of shredded salmon carcasses," Deacy said. "In 2014 and again in '15, we were stunned to find such a strikingly different scene. There were piles of rotting, intact carcasses that had died after spawning instead of being killed by bears."

It turns out the bears were feeding on abundant red elderberries, which typically ripen after salmon have finished spawning in streams.

In a typical year, the bears eat spawning salmon in small streams during mid-summer, followed by berries in late summer, and finally switch back to catching salmon in rivers and on lake beaches during fall. This pattern provides bears with a continuous supply of high-quality foods. The bears can only be in one place at a time and can only eat so much each day, so they benefit when their resources are chronologically spread out. When their food sources overlap in time, they must choose which to eat and which to skip.

The researchers found that due to warm spring temperatures on Kodiak, the berries were developing fruit weeks

earlier at the same time as the peak of the salmon migration. And 2014 was one of the warmest years on the island since record keeping began 60 years ago. Although there will continue to be considerable variation in Kodiak's climate, the warming trend is likely to continue.

The research team analyzed the bears' scat to find direct evidence that the bears were consuming the berries and not the salmon.

"An earlier berry crop shut down one of the most iconic predator-prey scenes in nature," said Jonny Armstrong, an ecologist at OSU and member of the research team. "As climate change reschedules ecosystems, species that were once separated in time are now getting a chance to interact – in this case the berries, bears and salmon. This is going to have large impacts that are hard to predict."

For example, birds that depend on bears pulling salmon out of the stream could be seriously affected, he said. Other far-reaching effects may include changes in streamside vegetation, evolving salmon populations, and impacts on plant pollinators.

"It is a strange, indirect effect of climate change," Deacy said. "These bears eat dozens of different foods throughout the year, but now two of them are overlapping. This is causing a disruption in the food web that could have profound implications for the ecology of the island."

The abundance of salmon and berries on Kodiak Island are why there are so many bears there and why they are so large, said Jack Stanford, director emeritus at UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station and one of the study's co-authors.

"This overlap in their resources forces the bears to make a choice that could in the long run result in fewer bears and/or unexpected changes in ecosystem structure," Stanford said.

The study's co-authors included William Leacock at Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Charles Robbins and Joy Erlenbach at Washington State University, David Gustine at Grand Teton National Park, Eric Ward at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center.

The Flathead Lake Biological Station and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through its refuge and inventory and monitoring programs, funded the research.

The study can be accessed online at <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2017/08/15/1705248114>.

###

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MMAC Exhibition to Explore Montana's Major Role in World War I

September 05, 2017

MISSOULA – The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at the University of Montana will present a powerful exhibition this fall commemorating America's involvement in World War I.

"Over There! Montanans in the Great War" will be on display at MMAC from Thursday, Sept. 21, through Saturday, Dec. 16. The exhibition, taking place 100 years after the U.S. entered the so-called "Great War," will



include more than 200 artifacts and works of art related to the lives of four Montanans who experienced the war's victories and degradations firsthand. In addition, the exhibition explores the concept of how "the Enemy" was portrayed during the war.

The four individuals from or closely tied to Montana featured in the exhibition include: Glasgow-born William Belzer, celebrated aviator and one of America's first flying aces; Great Falls widow Josephine Hale, who served as a Red Cross nurse and became a notable painter in France; Sidney F. Smith, "doughboy" and hero of the infamous "Lost Battalion"; and James Watson Gerard, U.S. ambassador to Berlin until America's declaration of war, who was married to Mary Daly of the famous mining family. The MMAC Permanent Collection will be featured in this exhibition through objects related to Hale, including her nurse's uniform, notebooks, photographs and works of art.

"The Great War seems long ago and far away, but MMAC brings it close to home and makes it personal," said Harry Fritz, UM history professor emeritus. "By focusing on four Montanans who played major roles in the conflict, the exhibit reminds us that we are never isolated from important international events.

"World War I was 'the great seminal catastrophe' of the 20th century, and we are still confronting the consequences of that titanic clash – in Europe, in Asia and, above all, in the Middle East. The centennial of the war is an appropriate time for remembering the conflict and learning from it, and the MMAC's portrayal is a must-see event."

The exhibition will open with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. The reception will feature a lecture and catalog-signing by H. Rafael Chacón, guest curator and UM professor of art history and criticism, at 6 p.m. in the Montana Theatre. Chacón has spent more than six years preparing this presentation and writing the accompanying catalog.

Seven additional programs will be presented in conjunction with the exhibition:

- **8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, Montana Theatre** – MMAC and the UM President's Lecture Series will sponsor "America's Deadliest Battle: An Experiential Film of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive," presented by Jo

Throckmorton, filmmaker and owner of Jo Throckmorton Filmworks.

- **7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9, Roxy Theater, 718 Higgins Ave.** – MMAC, in partnership with the Roxy Theater, will present “Grand Illusion” as part of the First Monday WWI Films series. Tickets cost \$8 or \$7 for students and seniors.
- **7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 6, Roxy Theater** – First Monday WWI Films: “Paths of Glory.” Tickets cost \$8 or \$7 for students and seniors.
- **5:30-7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 16, Masquer Theater, PAR/TV Center** – Lecture, “Artis et belli: the Great War and its Art,” presented by Chacón.
- **5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, Masquer Theatre** – Lecture, “After One Hundred Years: Montana and the Great War,” presented by Harry Fritz, UM professor emeritus of history.
- **7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, Roxy Theater** – First Monday WWI Films: “A Very Long Engagement.” Tickets cost \$8 or \$7 for students and seniors.
- **5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, Masquer Theatre** – Lecture, “The Grit and the Glory: the Great War and its Poetry,” presented by Lisa Simon, Radius Gallery co-owner.

MMAC has partnered with numerous organizations and sponsors to realize this important exhibition. Sponsors include Destination Missoula and the Tourism Business Improvement District, Ret. Col. Tom Ross, Washington Corporations, the Bill and Rosemary Gallagher Foundation, Western Montana Military Officers Association, Lowe's Home Improvement, Montana Public Radio, Bitterroot Flower Shop and MMAC Champion members.

Partners include the Montana Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, the UM President's Lecture Series, Joining Committee Forces, the Roxy Theatre, the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library's Archives & Special Collections, the Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History, the UM School of Art, the UM Department of History, and important collectors, including Hayes and Amalia Otoupalik, Paul Thomas, Keith Hardin, Ret. Col. Tom Ross, the Gilbert Millikan Art Resource Center and Betsy Bach.

MMAC's gallery hours are from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. The museum is closed Sundays, Mondays and UM holidays. The museum is open to the public with a suggested \$5 donation. For more information call 406-243-2019 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/>.

###

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UM Health Center Launches Student Wellness Advocate Program

September 05, 2017

MISSOULA – Curry Health Center Wellness at the University of Montana has kicked off a new Student Wellness Advocate program.

The program highlights and recognizes employees at UM who support student success and wellbeing. Employees nominated by students are recognized with a certificate and door sticker letting others know they are a part of the Student Wellness Advocate program.

In fall 2016, Amy Thompson, a community health graduate student and graduate assistant in the Wellness Department, conducted research about student wellness on campus. Her project was inspired by research done at Simon Fraser University in Canada that explored how learning environments contribute to student wellbeing and positive academic outcomes.

“We learned through this research just how important the learning environment is to student wellbeing,” said Julee Stearns, a UM health promotion specialist. “There are so many supportive people at UM, and we wanted to recognize and celebrate them. It’s clear that their work has a direct and positive impact on student success.”

In direct response to this graduate research project, the Student Wellness Advocate program launched with a goal of highlighting UM employees who support and encourage a healthy learning environment.

“Promoting campus wellness is a shared responsibility of everyone on this campus,” said Linda Green, Curry Health Center’s wellness director. “We actively promote programming that empowers students to lead balanced and healthy lives. The Student Wellness Advocate program supports those goals as outlined in the University’s Strategic Vision.”

Students are encouraged to continue nominating University employees who they believe encourage and enhance student wellbeing on campus online at <http://www.umt.edu/swa>.

For more information on the Student Wellness Advocate program, call Curry Health Center Wellness at 406-243-2809 or email jessica.vizzutti@umontana.edu.

###

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Montana Rep Theatre Presents Play-Reading Series

September 01, 2017

MISSOULA – The Montana Repertory Theatre at the University of Montana will present the first installment of its “4 for 4 Episode Slam” play-reading series at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept.10, in the Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center's Masquer Theatre.

This year's series features four afternoons of four 24-minute plays. It follows last year's “5 on 5 Play Slam” during which 15-minute plays were presented.

“Expanding to 24 minutes will challenge the local pool of 12 writers in a new way,” said Greg Johnson, Montana Rep artistic director. “This year's charge asks them to create work in a longer format – examining the length required for half-hour comedy and drama for television.”

One month prior to each reading date, the 12 writers in the four-for-four pool are given a prompt, which for September's presentation was “bullies.” Writers then have three weeks to write and present a 24-page manuscript to Montana Rep. The plays are anonymously adjudicated by UM staff and qualified readers. The Rep assigns directors and casts the four top-ranked scripts. One-day rehearsals are held before the Sunday readings, when the

audience gathers to celebrate the writers who were selected.

"If last year's '5 on 5' is any indication, we will have four Sundays of exciting, challenging, often hilarious works generated right here in Missoula," Johnson said.

A minimum donation of \$5 is requested at the door.

For more information, call Chatlain at 406-243-6809 or email salina.chatlain@umontana.edu.

###

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